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BARNARD
MAGAZINE

WINTER 2008

THE ROLE OF A LIFETIME

The Legacy of President Judith Shapiro
Anna Quindlen Talks to the President
Janet Jakobsen Engages In Difficult Dialogues

**"My longtime involvement in not-for-profit ventures has taught me:
‘No money, no mission.’"**

Janet Bersin Finke '56
Athena Society Member



"I applied to Barnard almost by chance, but by the time I was accepted, I knew it would be the ideal college for me. My four years there were exciting, elevating, and enlightening. The faculty and my fellow students stimulated me to learn and experience a wealth of new ideas, helping to sharpen my insights and beliefs. I've stayed connected to Barnard ever since and am gratified to see the College's steadfast commitment to educate women of amazing accomplishment, many of whom go on to become leaders in their fields.

Without sustained financial support, the noblest endeavor cannot survive. My Charitable Gift Annuity will help ensure that Barnard will continue as a great educational institution. Plus, I use the gift annuity payments I receive as contributions to The Barnard Fund. I urge other alumnae to join The Athena Society by creating a gift annuity or making a bequest to Barnard."

**Please consider joining
The Athena Society today.**

The Athena Society recognizes the many alumnae and friends who have included Barnard in their estate plan or through other planned gifts, ensuring Barnard's excellence for future generations. Please advise us if Barnard is in your estate plan so we may welcome you into The Athena Society. Contact Audra Lewton, 212.854.0787 or plannedgiving@barnard.edu.

BARNARD
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BARNARD MAGAZINE

WINTER 2008



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by Wesley Yang

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by Anne Schutzberger

Since she first took the stage at the College, Judith Shapiro has inspired the campus community with her own charismatic brand of grace, humor, talent, and style. A look back at the accomplishments and achievements of a remarkable leader.

ON THE COVER

President Judith Shapiro

Photograph by Annie Leibovitz

A special thank you to Pat Shimm and Tovah Klein of the Barnard Center for Toddler Development for making possible this fitting tribute to President Shapiro.

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Real Women ...

At last, a real woman on the cover of *Barnard Magazine* (Summer 2007). She is not young, she knows her way forward, she does not fool around, and she has kept her sense of humor. The photographer reveals what I assume is Marian Heineman Rose's inner essence in both published photographs. Thank you for putting one of them on the cover.

—Marisa Macina Hagan '51
New York, N.Y.

... and Real Beauty

Thank you, thank you, thank you for the photos of real women in the Summer issue of the magazine. I appreciate your not kow-towing to popular ideas that narrowly define feminine beauty as thin, young, blond, and scantily clad.

My teenage daughter and I have been struggling to find images of real girls and women to counterbalance the barrage of images of plastic women from magazines and films.

The women in this issue look beautiful; they are women of substance and are admirable for looking so comfortable with themselves as they are.

—Jean Anthony Galmot '79
New York, N.Y.

Correcting the Record

Thank you so much for the very flattering profile of me that appeared in the fall issue of *Barnard Magazine*. The profile contains several errors, however.

I am a Clinical Professor of Law, Clinical Scholar, and co-director of the Constitutional Litigation Clinic at Rutgers Law School. I have been a full professor for seven years, and a co-director of the Clinic for four years.

Thanks again for the great profile.
—Penny Venetis '83
New York, N.Y.

Editor's Note

Thank you for correcting the record. We regret the errors.

Thank You, President Shapiro

President Judith Shapiro's visit to Los Angeles on January 12th, at a Mandeville Canyon home, was awaited with considerable anticipation by Los Angeles-area alumnae. A lively group showed up, from the youngest to the oldest representatives of Barnard classes.

President Shapiro's informal talk was the high point of the afternoon. She reported on the progress that has been made on the Nexus, and spoke with justifiable pride of the high regard in which Barnard is now held, as the outstanding college for women in the U.S. President Shapiro also paid tribute to previous presidents and spoke with sincerity about how much her years at Barnard have meant to her.

When someone offered a well-deserved tribute to President Shapiro's remarkable ability to create and sustain an extraordinary sense of community among Barnard alumnae, the sentiment resounded when others added their personal commendations. It was a rewarding afternoon for everyone who attended and a heartfelt tribute to our outgoing president.

I thought it fitting to reaffirm that tribute in the pages of the alumnae magazine.

—Ethel Greenfield Booth '32
Los Angeles, Calif.

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The contact information listed in Class Notes is for the exclusive purpose of providing information for the magazine and may not be used for any other purpose.

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THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW

It happens so often that I've almost come to expect it on a daily basis. I'm reading the paper, my attention drawn to news of a major development in science, medicine, literature, law, the arts, or another field. And there, at the center of the story, is the name of someone who graduated from Barnard.

On the morning I began this column, the name belonged to Stephanie Barron '72, a senior curator at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and a member of the Arts Advisory Council at Barnard. Stephanie was interviewed in the *New York Times* about her museum's acquisition of 130 paintings and sculptures by great Modernists like Picasso and Giacometti.

Often the familiar Barnard name appears in the weekly *Book Review*—and I'm equally delighted whether it's the name of an established novelist well known for her body of work, or a young memoirist receiving attention for her first book. The name might appear in a science story about researchers or clinicians making advances in cancer detection or treatment. Another morning it's in the national or regional pages, and may belong to a major adviser to a presidential candidate, or a political reformer who's enjoyed an upset victory in a state legislative race. Or I'm smiling with recognition at the familiar name of an attorney who's won a landmark case, or a judge who's instituted long-sought court reforms.

The medium is only part of the message. Just as I'm inspired by those reports in the *Times*, I'm unfailingly impressed by conversations with alumnae and reports in the Class Notes section of this magazine. The last edition of Class Notes was typical, with fascinating news of women of all ages, professions, and interests. On an early page, a correspondent cited the mathematics and wartime cryptology career of a recently deceased member of the Class of '39. A later entry heralded two films written and directed by a member of the Class of '93. Every page of reportage documents the profound contributions our alumnae make daily to family and community life.

The examples are never-ending, as is my pleasure in reading about these admirable women. As I prepare to leave the College, whatever separation anxiety I may feel is balanced by the knowledge that Barnard will always remain a part of who I am, and that this will be a great point of pride and satisfaction.

I look forward to maintaining a connection with Barnard women of all generations, and I know it won't be long before I'm reading the paper and seeing names from this year's graduating class. One student I know I'll be hearing more of is Brenda Galván '08, a political science major who's writing her senior thesis on issues related to the separation of church and state. Supported by the College's Constance Hess Williams '66 Fund for Political Internships, Brenda has been working in the press-relations office of Senator Hillary Clinton, and after being nominated by Professor Richard Pious, she won a research fellowship at the Center for the Study of the Presidency in Washington, D.C. This is a young woman whose active interest in politics dates back to her preteen participation in the 1997 campaign of a California congresswoman, yet she credits Barnard for teaching her "not to be intimidated ... and not to be quiet."

Students like Brenda were very much on my mind during the annual Seven College Conference, which Barnard hosted in late November, and which is a collegial and contemplative gathering of top administrators and faculty of the schools formerly

Continued on Page 36



WHAT'S INSIDE

In the spring of 2007, Barnard president Judith R. Shapiro announced her retirement. She came to Barnard in the fall of 1994 as the 10th leader of the College and its sixth president. An eminent cultural anthropologist, President Shapiro had chaired the anthropology department at Bryn Mawr, and later served as that institution's provost. Combining her academic and administrative expertise, she was to become an exemplary leader for Barnard and accomplish extraordinary things during her tenure—from enhancing Barnard's academic reputation to expanding its physical space and strengthening its endowment. President Shapiro's role as an outstanding and vocal supporter of women's education is yet another aspect of her capacity to inspire, to persuade, and, ultimately, to lead.

In this issue, as we celebrate 14 years of growth and expansion, we invite you to share with us the highlights of President Shapiro's years at Barnard. Board Chair and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Anna Quindlen '74 spent some quality time with Shapiro for a wide-ranging and thought-provoking interview about the nature of her presidency. Photojournalist and portrait photographer extraordinaire Annie Leibovitz set out to capture the essence of this multifaceted woman for the cover. We also profile some of Barnard's emerging leaders, as we consider the question of leadership and explore how new initiatives at the College promote and strengthen the leadership qualities in our students today.

President Shapiro now faces yet another challenge of leadership: change and transition. Thanks to her steady and enlightened guidance, fierce intellectual prowess, strategic judgment, humor, and common sense, Barnard today is thriving. It comes as no surprise that President Shapiro is now turning her focus to a productive exchange of information and a smooth transfer of leadership before she steps down on July 1. Such a thoughtful and collaborative transition is not only a mark of her excellent leadership, it is her own testament to the strength of this College and to its place in the world.

Join us in celebrating the Shapiro years—in Anna Quindlen's words, "a golden age for Barnard College."

—The Editors



The bestselling author of four novels and four nonfiction books, **Anna Quindlen** '74 has also authored two children's books. For her Q&A with outgoing President Judith Shapiro (page 22), the Barnard Board of Trustees Chair sat down with Shapiro to consider some of today's hot-button issues in higher education. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for her *New York Times* column, "Public and Private," Quindlen now pens a column every other week for *Newsweek*.



Annie Leibovitz, eminent American portrait photographer and Barnard Toddler Center parent, photographed President Shapiro in Sulzberger Parlor for this issue's cover. The recipient of the College's Medal of Distinction, Leibovitz also has been designated a *Commandeur* in the French government's *Ordre des Arts et des Lettres*. She was named a Living Legend by the Library of Congress and one of the 35 Innovators of Our Time by *Smithsonian* magazine.

Photograph by Paul Gilmore



Millicent C. McIntosh Professor in English
Mary Gordon has written six novels, three memoirs, and numerous novellas, short stories, and essays, including this issue's Last Word (page 76). Gordon '71 is the recipient of a Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writer's Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and an O. Henry Award for best short story. She and her husband, Arthur Cash, split their time between New York and Rhode Island.

Photograph by Emma Dodge Hanson



New York-based illustrator **Katherine Streeter** works for publications, designers, and agencies throughout the world. She balances her career in commercial art with teaching and creating work for gallery exhibits, including one in Italy, *The Fabulous Coloured Pencils of the World*, which showcases 25 women illustrators. Streeter's main subjects are people; her work lends itself well to representing the multi-faceted Barnard community (see Through The Gates, page 5).



WON'T YOU BE OUR NEIGHBOR?



"I am a New Yorker, and I care about this neighborhood," says President Judith Shapiro when asked to reflect on the role she has played these past 14 years in strengthening Barnard's relationship to Morningside Heights and its many educational, community, and religious institutions. As an anthropologist, Shapiro's focus on and commitment to the neighborhood has been especially strong. From her first days on the job until today, say those who know—including community leaders, organizers, and College and University employees—Barnard's standing in the community has grown stronger, more secure, and more respected.

"Judith has championed openness and transparency in the College, and she has approached the community in the same way," says Barnard general counsel Michael Feierman, who has been at the College since 1986. "This is reflected in our relationships with the community board and with other neighboring institutions." And it's led to greater appreciation by everyone at the College—from students to administrators, faculty to staff—of the place that we all call home.

Below, a handful of people from the College, the University, and neighboring organizations describe the impact that President Shapiro and Barnard have had on the College's urban surroundings, and pay tribute to President Shapiro's vision and leadership.

Ann McIver, Executive Director, Morningside Area Alliance

The Alliance had been involved in direct service youth programs for nearly 60 years. There was a point at which everybody on the board decided that that really was not particularly effective anymore, and we needed to look at doing things differently. It was Judith Shapiro, during her tenure as president of our governing board, that began the conversation about the Alliance acting more like a catalyst in the community and bringing about improvements in a collective way.

Judith has always been very present, involved, and engaged, even before her presidency of the Alliance. It was the work we did in Morningside Park that showed her how we might better leverage our own resources, and those of the many neighborhood institutions and organizations, to achieve greater change. We had brought in some resources and organized the neighborhood, and then we worked to facilitate a transfer of the advocacy and leadership of the park to the Friends of Morningside Park.

She was determined to look at the collection of institutions in the community, especially when we began to focus on the issue of education in the community. As



she well recognized, there are 17 institutions in Morningside Heights covering everything from health care to all sorts of education. There are a number of resources to be shared. Shifting the focus of the Alliance from direct service in this way is really big.

Michael Feierman, General Counsel, Barnard College

Judith wanted us all to focus on the community, and she has given us the support and the resources to do it. Barnard has a lot to offer, and certainly within the community and beyond, this raises our profile. We are part of so many initiatives and organizational efforts to improve, strengthen, and unite the community. There are efforts that support the local parks, especially Morningside Park, and local charities. A few months ago, when the food pantries in the neighborhood needed emergency funding—under a recent federal agriculture bill, many food pantries faced shortages—Judith made funds available and asked the entire Barnard community to help. Our students, for several years now, have worked with Common Ground, a nonprofit homeless advocacy and service organization.

One of the biggest transformations has been in Morningside Park, which has gone from being what was essentially a place to avoid to now being a very active and successful space in which people go into the park, and enjoy the concerts, movies, and art.

Beyond our role in these various programs, we're also more of a presence physically, and this is important. With Cathedral Gardens, our building at 110th Street in west Harlem, we have, literally and reputationally, broken out of our small campus. As part of the College's commitment to the neighborhood, we will be providing space in Cathedral Gardens, over 5,000 square feet, to two community-based organizations. One group is going to be an assistance program—operated by the Goddard Riverside Community Center—for tenants living in SRO's in that area. The other will be a neighborhood child-care center.

Through all of these efforts, Judith has made sure that Barnard takes seriously its responsibility to the surrounding neighborhood.

Marcia Lynn Sells '81, Assistant Vice President, Columbia University Office of Government and Community Affairs

Today, Barnard more clearly recognizes that it's a part of a neighborhood, and that it's not an isolated place. The College reached out to the city as a whole, but it has not always recognized itself as part of upper Manhattan, and Harlem in particular. Judith, while she was head of the Morningside Area Alliance, more clearly realized the demographics of the neighborhood, and how this affects so much. And over time, she has recognized and understood that on its own, Barnard can have a positive impact that is meaningful: whether that comes from purchasing goods for the College from local, and women-owned businesses, or actively participating in efforts that have revitalized our parks.

In recognizing women leaders in the community, Judith and Barnard have shown the women who come from other parts of the country and the world that they're coming to a place with a rich history: intellectual, social, cultural. And that there are people—like physician and educator Dr. Muriel Petioni, one of last year's Barnard medalists—who've had foresight and strength, and made a difference.

Continued on Page 72



TAG TEAMS

BARNARD & COLUMBIA'S ATHLETIC PARTNERSHIP

When Columbia College went coed in 1983, women's athletics was just one of the issues that had to be resolved. "Columbia needed an athletics program and it needed it fast," says Sharon Everson, then Barnard's fencing coach and now chair of the College's department of physical education.

The answer turned out to be a unique athletic partnership. This year marks 25 years of the resulting Columbia-Barnard Athletic Consortium (celebrations will be held throughout 2008). Under the arrangement—the only such partnership in Division I—women from both schools compete on the same sports teams.

It wasn't that there weren't opportunities for Barnard women to compete in collegiate athletics before 1983. Quite the contrary, up until the early 1980s, Barnard athletes played in Division III sports (except in fencing, which, under a special NCAA rule, was a Division I sport for Barnard) and distinguished themselves in their league.

But as Columbia prepared to enroll its first class of women, the possibility of a women's athletic program at the newly coeducational institution raised questions for Barnard's athletes. Barnard teams used Columbia facilities when their own proved insufficient. A handful of Columbia women participated in Barnard athletics. What would become of the shared efforts?

Margie Tversky, Barnard's athletic director at the time, and now associate athletic director for student services at Towson University, worried that Barnard might soon be looking for sports facilities to practice and compete in. She also feared that Barnard would be competing for high school athletes against the Ivy League across the street.

Tversky and others at Barnard approached Columbia's then athletic director, Al Paul, to devise a mutually beneficial structure. Tversky suggested the two schools build on their existing relationship and offer a joint program. Columbia would get an established program for its first class of women; Barnard could strengthen its already existing athletic offerings with more funding and a larger pool of athletes. "The advantages greatly outweighed the disadvantages," Tversky says.

Today more than 300 women participate in 15 team sports. "There are many students who would not have come to Barnard if this opportunity had not existed," says Karen Blank, dean of studies. The options for athletes now are greater. "We couldn't have had a softball team, a lacrosse team, a soccer team, by ourselves." Thanks to the consortium, she says, and the fact that Barnard pays a portion of the operating costs, Columbia, too, can offer a full complement of women's athletics.

For alumnae like Lisa Piazza '85, a fencer who competed on both the preconsortium Barnard and the combined Barnard-CU team, there were immediate benefits, such as access to Columbia's dedicated fencing facility with built-in fencing strips. "We didn't have to fight for gym space anymore," Piazza, a onetime U.S. World Championship Team member and Columbia Athletics Hall of Fame inductee, recalls. Also, there were additional sparring partners available as the men and women practiced together.

The consortium continued to provide opportunities to later generations. Rachel Pauley '95 never competed in field hockey as an undergraduate; it wasn't yet a varsity sport. So she helped the consortium to develop a team, which first participated in intercollegiate competition in 1996. The team finished second in the Ivy League in 2007. "Having Barnard affiliated with the consortium offers students the best of both worlds," says Pauley, an attorney in the office of New York State Attorney General Andrew Cuomo. "You can get a liberal arts education and also compete in Division I sports. That value is not to be underestimated."



"We always are listening for the rhythm of a sentence and the cadence of the voice, in addition to what the person is saying."

MONDRIAN, YEATS, EVEN PUNK

THE MAKING OF POET SASKIA HAMILTON

It's not possible to truly know how someone became who she is, but it's certainly interesting to explore the influences that helped shape her. In the case of Saskia Hamilton, the influences include punk rock.

Her Barnard colleagues and students know Hamilton as an assistant professor of English, the director of Women Poets at Barnard, and a published writer: Graywolf Press has published two volumes of her verse, *As for Dream* (2001) and *Divide These* (2005). She's also the editor of *The Letters of Robert Lowell*, published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux in 2005. But at the height of the punk scene in the 1980s, when she was in junior high school in Washington, D.C., Hamilton was a fledgling songwriter for a punk band (her lyrics, she says, were unusable), as well as the bass player in an otherwise all-guy group. "I was the girl. The girl always got the bass," she says, smiling.

While music was (and still is) a significant part of her life, literature and poetry were also mainstays of Hamilton's childhood. Her parents and grandparents frequently read to her, and not the typical children's fare: They shared with her the wonders of Wallace Stevens, Robert Frost, T. S. Eliot, and other poets to whom most people are introduced a bit later in life. "My grandmother used to read Yeats to me," recalls Hamilton. "And I didn't understand it all. I think I just took it in as music."

Her ability to hear poetry in this way may stem from Hamilton's exposure to a second language. Her mother is Dutch, and Hamilton and her brother visited Holland every year as children. The trips included visits to Dutch art museums, which fostered a love of the painters Mondrian, Rembrandt, Vermeer, and van Gogh. While she says her own Dutch was only "passable" at the time, Hamilton believes such exposure taught her to listen "at once abstractly and attentively." She has noticed this approach to interpretation in students who are bilingual. "We always are listening for the rhythm of a sentence and the cadence of the voice, in addition to what the person is saying. This is true of nearly all who are interested in poetry," she observes.

Hamilton taught at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, and at Stonehill College in Easton, Massachusetts, before joining Barnard's faculty in 2003. As director of the esteemed Women Poets at Barnard, she welcomes the opportunity to challenge the traditional paradigm of poetry as a male-dominated sport, in part through the program's highly respected reading series. Men are and have been invited to read, but when they do, she says, "it's in the context of women's contribution to art." Besides the events, the program also awards the Barnard Women Poets Prize, a biennial award for an exceptional second collection of poems. It's typically this point, Hamilton notes, when "a poet's voice begins to fully mature." Women Poets will mark its 20th anniversary on April 8 with a reading by Lisa Williams, whose manuscript *Woman Reading to the Sea* was selected by Joyce Carol Oates for the 2007 prize.

Hamilton herself has garnered no small amount of acclaim for the style and content of her writing. The distinguished poet Jorie Graham has described her as "an extremely subtle and fierce" poet. Asked what inspires her verse, Hamilton pauses to reflect, then says that it's many things, but at the moment she's been thinking about Mondrian and reading British poet Geoffrey Hill, and ... "How about punk?" this reporter inquires.

"It, like all music, is always there," she says. "Always. Music never goes away."

PASS THE MIC

WBAR—BROADCASTING LIVE FROM MORNINGSIDE HEIGHTS



Totally independent free-form radio is the guiding principle at Barnard's student-run station, WBAR. "It's truly a dying medium," says general manager, Margaret Eby '08. As such, there are no programming limitations. "Our mission is to allow people to express themselves through this medium and to keep it as open and interactive as possible." About 120 DJs from Barnard and Columbia take that directive to heart, filling the air 24/7 with everything from jazz to punk, metal to hip-hop.

Launched in lower level McIntosh 15 years ago this April, WBAR's current home is in the basement of Reid Hall. The new, somewhat hidden space includes a fully equipped sound studio, a few thousand CDs, random office furniture, and other ephemera (notably, whimsical concert flyers and posters).

The DJ roster makes WBAR one of the largest student clubs both at Barnard and Columbia, and represents a truly pan-University community. While a Barnard student must fill the general manager post, other "executive" staffers can represent any CU undergraduate college. These are the folks minding the shop: signing on DJs, scheduling programs, ensuring the studio and office are neat (CDs must be filed back on the shelves), scoping out new music, booking concerts, and more.

Staffers also sit behind the mic for a two-hour programming slot. "Anyone can apply for a radio show," says co-technical director Shakeer Rahman C09. But given the station's rising popularity, openings are tough to come by. Typically, says personnel director Rachel Lowdermilk '08, interested first-years catch a break as substitute DJs. Then, by second semester or second year, with a bit of experience and freed-up blocks, students will land a coveted spot at, say, 4 AM on a weeknight. No doubt, someone's listening. Internet broadcasting—which is primarily how WBAR's programming is disseminated (see www.wbar.org)—has enabled a global audience, so that at 4 AM on any Tuesday, DJ Jessica's show "Six Degrees of

Separation" might be blasting through a computer somewhere in Australia or Japan.

The programming is eclectic, and WBAR does occasionally air nonmusical shows (like a weekly reading from the personal memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant). But what's gotten WBAR rave reviews and postings on various music blogs and Web sites are the contemporary rock and punk selections and live concerts. A set by British trio Fujiya & Miyagi in McIntosh last March was listed in the *New York Times*; and this past November, *Impose* magazine noted WBAR's "excellent" concerts.

More of the same is on the calendar this spring, including the annual WBAR-B-Que. Note that staffers pronounce the station name as "bar" with a silent "w" in front. "We like to joke about it," says Eby. "When we turned 13 two years ago, we celebrated a WBAR-mitzvah. This year we've got a quinceañera, but there's no 'bar-' in that." You can bet they'll come up with something. Whatever it is, the DJs have plenty of reason to celebrate. Rock on.



SIMPLE TRUTHS

REMEMBERING ELIZABETH HARDWICK

Beyond the Barnard gates, Professor Elizabeth Hardwick was a towering literary figure, a novelist, a dazzling essayist, and a cofounder of a journal that began at her dining room table on West 67th Street, in 1963, during a long newspaper strike. Concerned that readers would never learn of books published while there were no newspapers to review them, Hardwick, her then husband, poet Robert Lowell, and several friends created the *New York Review of Books*, which quickly became a preeminent forum for examining literature, politics, and culture. Hardwick was a frequent contributor and an advisory editor until shortly before her death on December 2, 2007, at the age of 91.

Within the College gates, where she taught creative writing from the mid-1960s to 1985, Hardwick was revered and sometimes feared, as much for her writing and literary reputation as for her eccentric ways and her unpredictably blunt assessments of student work. Among those who studied with her—including Mary Gordon '71, Anna Quindlen '74, and Sigrid Nunez '72—she had a cult-like following. “We wanted to know how she lived, what she ate, and what she did when she wasn’t with us,” Nunez told the *New Yorker* in a 1998 profile of Hardwick. Quindlen remembers that “she always loomed large in my memory of becoming a writer, almost as though she was a character in a novel. That combination of charm and brilliance, good manners, and steel-trap mind.”

In my memories of Hardwick, she was exotic and notably different from our other women professors. We knew she was “someone” beyond the confines of the College, and for those of us with literary aspirations, she was a role model at a time when precious few of her stature were available. Beyond the aura of her pedigree, there was her languid Kentucky drawl, her easy laughter, and her unvarnished criticism, delivered with a disarming originality that took away some of the sting. Nunez describes her returning a story and saying, “I wanted to read your story. I did, and I started to, but I couldn’t finish it, it was just so bad.” For Mary Gordon, “her praise was difficult to achieve, and when you got it, you felt anointed.”

Jean Zimmerman '79, author of several books of nonfiction, came to Barnard to study English after two years at Princeton. “Hardwick’s workshop was a fantasy of learning to write,” she recalls. Hardwick took her “scraps of earnest description ... totally seriously, fueling my desire to write more and longer. She laid down some memorable rules: You don’t have to show a character walking across the room ... you must be selective about details. But what most encouraged me,” she says, “were her intellect and her eccentricity, her lipstick and her appreciation of students’ efforts, and what I think I remember as her chain-smoking at the conference table. Is it possible we smoked in the classroom? She epitomized being a writer.”

Far beyond that, Hardwick made us feel, in Gordon’s words, “that literature was a noble calling and serious and worth working hard at. She was very clear about how much of life was about reading.” Her most celebrated novel, *Sleepless Nights*, is about memory, loss, and her intoxication with reading.

“There’s not much I can teach you about writing,” she once told me. “The most I can do is suggest books to read.” But she did much more than that. Even the chaos and sadness of her personal life, her difficult marriage and public divorce from Lowell, and their tragic reunion (he died in a taxi returning to her apartment), taught us about the messiness of adulthood and the consolations of literature in the midst of it.

TALK THIS WAY

BARNARD'S NEW SPEAKING WORKSHOPS PREPARE STUDENTS FOR LEADERSHIP ROLES

In this year of presidential politics, there can be no argument that the ability to speak clearly and convincingly in public is crucial to swaying voters and winning elections. Comfort in speaking publicly and engaging an audience are key characteristics of effective leadership in any profession.

President Judith R. Shapiro emphatically addresses the needs of today's young women. "Speaking efficiently, and with authority, is central to leadership and is especially important to women," Shapiro says. She laments the savvy, sophisticated, and well-educated woman who cannot convey her intellect, the strength of her ideas, or her problem-solving capacities to an audience. One of her special peeves is the young woman whose intonation rises at the end of a declarative sentence, making it sound as if she is asking a question rather than stating a fact.

As part of the Barnard Leadership Initiative (see Syllabus, page 14), and with Shapiro's enthusiastic support, Pamela Cobrin, acting director of Barnard's writing program and director of the Writing Fellows program, and Julie Zuraw, a communications consultant with experience in nonprofit institutions, worked with several faculty members to spearhead a speaking fellows program. Modeled on the Writing Fellows program, Cobrin and Zuraw have devised a course of study that enables students to analyze speaking goals and the nature of their audience as well as how they relate to it. Zuraw emphasizes, "The goals are confidence, command, and credibility, the necessary skills to speak effectively." Last spring, groups of six students met to explore these subjects. "We coach to their comfort level, and offer positive and useful feedback," says Zuraw. "We also provide techniques to motivate an audience." Students with particular aptitude for oral presentations apply to become Speaking Fellows who will train future workshop members.

Speaking fellow and former high school debater Erika Starr '08 saw the workshop as formal training. "Julie was really great at focusing on the strengths of each individual and encouraging us to use our personalities to our advantage." Minute-long spontaneous arguments about a nonsense topic (e.g., should dogs do yoga) focused students on quick organization and recall of key facts, an essential part of any good presentation. Most useful, says Starr, were the techniques for building a strong connection with audiences, thus increasing attention and persuasion. After she graduates in May, Starr will be joining Teach for America; for her the workshop has been a boon. "I know I'll be able to connect with my students rather than teach at them. The training has given me a vocabulary on how to handle praise and criticism."

Economics major and speaking fellow Linda Luu '08 was another member of the pilot group. The emphasis on comfort level was most helpful to her. "The more comfortable you are, the more effective you are." Luu learned that good public speaking means taking control of and manipulating your space; you must become the unwavering focus of the audience's attention. "You are standing in a group of seated individuals; this very fact enhances your authority," says Luu. Preparing for a career as an investment banker, Luu expects to be crunching numbers for just a few years before she begins making presentations to investors and clients.

As newly empowered Speaking Fellows, both Starr and Luu have seen their self-confidence levels soar; both feel up to the challenge of speaking from prepared material or extemporaneously. Or, perhaps someday, running for office.



THIS IS ONLY A TEST

THE NEXUS WILL ENDURE RAIN, SLEET, WINDS & MORE

A glass curtain wall planned for the exterior of the Nexus underwent intense performance testing last November and December. A wall mock-up erected just outside of York, Pennsylvania, braved artificial winds, rain, and freezing weather as part of the process to ensure the endurance of the real thing once the building is completed. Curtain wall consultant and engineer Robert Heintges is working closely with architects Weiss/Manfredi on the project. Visit www.barnard.edu/nexus/about/wall.html for more about this feature, including a video of the testing pictured below.



WINTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THE SCHOLAR & THE FEMINIST CONFERENCE: THE STATE OF DEMOCRACY

MARCH 1, 9:00–8:30 PM

BARNARD HALL LOBBY

As we enter a Presidential election year, political scholars, activists, and policy-makers—including New York State Senator Liz Krueger, and legal scholar Lani Guinier—will consider how we can build a democracy that is capable of involving Americans at all levels. Registration required. Visit www.barnard.edu/bcrw, or call 212.854.2067.

TWILIGHT LECTURE ON PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS WITH POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR RICHARD PIOUS

MARCH 10, 6:30 PM

NORTH TOWER SUITE, SULZBERGER HALL
Presented by Project Continuum: Barnard Women in Transition, an alumnae organization that addresses the needs of alumnae who are 50 and older. Registration required. Visit alum.barnard.edu, or call 212.854.2005.

FINANCIAL FLUENCY 101 WEEKEND MINI-COURSE

APRIL 10–APRIL 12

BARNARD COLLEGE

The Smart Women, Smart Money Financial Fluency Program offers personal finance education to alumnae through mini-courses, workshops, and lectures. Learn an effective system to assess your current finances, determine your long-term goals, and create a plan to reach them. Registration required. Visit alum.barnard.edu/smart, e-mail alumnaeaffairs@barnard.edu, or call 212.854.2005.

TWELFTH NIGHT

APRIL 24–APRIL 26, 8:00 PM

MINOR LATHAM PLAYHOUSE

Mistaken identities and the love triangles that ensue make for some serious tangles in the topsy-turvy world of *Twelfth Night*. \$5/\$3 with CUID. Visit www.barnard.edu/theatre, or call 212.854.5638.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE: A PANEL DISCUSSION IN HONOR OF JUDITH SHAPIRO

APRIL 28, 6:00–8:00 PM

SULZBERGER PARLOR, BARNARD HALL

A discussion about the extraordinary career of Barnard's President Judith Shapiro and the singular contributions she has made in such areas as women's education and leadership, and advocacy for academic integrity and freedom. Alison Bernstein, vice president of the Ford Foundation's Knowledge, Creativity & Freedom Program, and Diana Chapman Walsh, former president of Wellesley College, discuss the issues related to these areas and explore the broader ramifications of current thinking on the production of knowledge. Visit www.barnard.edu/bcrw, or call 212.854.2067.

Visit www.barnard.edu/calendar for the College's full events calendar.





LEARNING TO LEAD

A groundbreaking curriculum is at the heart of the Barnard Leadership Initiative.

In the continuing struggle for full equality, American women have reached a major juncture. Today, following four decades of extraordinary progress, women represent nearly half of the active American workforce, hold a majority of the baccalaureate and master's degrees, and have joined once-barred graduate programs and professions en masse. Yet the uppermost echelons of public and private enterprise—where wealth and power are concentrated—are still overwhelmingly male domains, where change has come too slowly or scarcely at all.

The Barnard Leadership Initiative (BLI) aims to keep women and society from stalling at this juncture. Launched by the College in 2006, BLI includes a variety of components, all designed by faculty and administrators who have been considering weighty, far-reaching questions like these: If a woman has intelligence, vision, and ambition, what knowledge, skills, and strategies will she need to overcome systemic barriers, rise to the top, and exert powerful influence in her chosen field? And what can be done to ensure that—whether male or female—the people who run our government, businesses, and nonprofit institutions are clear-thinking, ethical, effective, and compassionate leaders?

At the core of the leadership curriculum are two seminar courses required of students who choose to complete the full BLI academic program. These students start with the “Women

and Leadership” seminar and end with the “Interdisciplinary Senior Seminar in Public and Private Enterprise.” They also pick three electives from a list that includes such varied courses as “Work and Culture” (sociology), “Business Organization” (economics), and “American Political Decision-Making” (political science).

The choice of electives is growing as the curriculum continues to be developed by a faculty committee. Among the committee’s members are BLI director Alan Dye, associate professor of economics, who has a special interest in entrepreneurship, and Rosalind Rosenberg, Ann Whitney Olin Professor of History, whose scholarly work has focused on the evolving status of American women and the feminist movement during the last century.

The yearlong Interdisciplinary Senior Seminar serves as the capstone BLI learning experience, and enables students to gain relevant perspectives on the research they are completing in their own majors. Fully enrolled BLI students will have their achievement duly noted on their final transcripts. For students not committed to the full BLI program, the leadership curriculum offers a variety of entry points and degrees of participation, and allows any Barnard student to take one or more individual courses. Whatever the extent of her leadership

Continued on Page 36



In drama, words are meant to be spoken, not scanned silently on the dry page. So a good playwright thinks in sounds, not letters.

"I hear plays," says Brooke Berman '89, author of *Hunting and Gathering*, which recently marked its world premiere at New York City's Primary Stages (the play runs until March 1). "I've always heard them, like symphonies." Berman is the author of several works, including *Wonderland*, a collage-like tale about a performance artist who meets Jesus in Hollywood, and *Smashing*, a dark comedy having to do with two Barnard students, revenge, and hero worship. Berman adapted the work after it was optioned for a screenplay.

A sound designer once told her she was writing "choral odes" instead of prose, and Berman, 38, took the observation to heart. "My plays might have a staccato scene, then a luscious monologue, then something comes on top of that," she says. "They have a rhythm. You have to breathe in the right places or you're missing the point."

This sensibility means that her writing isn't naturalistic. Nor are her plays avant-garde, exactly. The playwright has won a bushel of awards and her work has been performed at the Steppenwolf Theatre Company, the National Theatre in London, and the

AT HOME ON THE STAGE

SOUNDING MORE LIKE CHORAL ODES THAN PROSE,
BROOKE BERMAN'S PLAYS HAVE RHYTHM

Williamstown Theatre Festival. She's fast rising to the top of New York's theatre world.

Berman was born into a show-business life. Her mother was a concert pianist, and, after her parents divorced, her mother worked first in theatrical and later in fashion public relations. "I watched all the shows in the back," says Berman. "It was like a strange, itinerant, gypsy family you become part of, and I got the sense of wanting to be an actress by the time I was 4."

About the time she saw a monologue by Spalding Gray, Berman realized she wanted to perform her own words. At Barnard, Berman began performing in cabarets, liking the feeling of acting in her own work in front of an audience. "[My time at Barnard] was very formative," she says. "I had professors who blew my mind and shaped my references." But Berman wanted to tell stories to a larger audience. After two years at the College, she left for what she thought would be a temporary break, to tackle performance full-time and to study with acclaimed director and Columbia University professor Anne Bogart. (Berman attended Barnard in 1988 and 1989, and left in good standing in May 1989.)

By the time Berman turned 27, though, acting and life had left her feeling frustrated. Berman had been dividing her energies between writing, acting, dancing, and art. Now she

realized that playwriting combined all those interests. "So I decided to roll the dice. I applied to Juilliard." She sent the text of *Wonderland* with her application. It worked. "Playwrights Program co-director Christopher Durang called me up one day and said, 'I love your work.'"

Since then, Berman has kept up a steady pace of writing. "I feel out my story arcs rhythmically instead of dramaturgically," she says, returning to the theme of the spoken word. "Certain languages have an incantatory power. The exact way the mouth shapes the words has a healing energy. It makes for a larger psychological universe."

That universe is populated, of course. Berman compares writing characters to child's play. "The playwright makes a dollhouse and invites her favorite people to come and play inside," she says. In the case of *Hunting and Gathering*, those people are young New Yorkers "couch-surfing"—an ordeal with which Berman is intimate. "I've lived in over 30 apartments in New York City. It's just the way my life unfolded. In 2001, I was asked to write a 10-minute play about home, and my response was to just list the 20 or so apartments I'd lived in by then."

While finding a home is the central theme of her play, Berman isn't searching for her place in the world. "Home is amorphous. It's an emotional state," she says. For Berman, that emotional state will always have its place on the stage.

QUICK TAKE

PLAYING TO HER STRENGTHS

GAIL ARCHER

American Idyll, Meyer Media, 2008, \$12

One of only a handful of internationally recognized women organists, Gail Archer was nominated for a Grammy last fall. This year she is releasing her third album, *American Idyll*, and is performing the complete organ works of Olivier Messiaen in churches across New York City, including a March 8 concert at Columbia University's St. Paul's Chapel. Here, Archer—director of Barnard's music program—talks about what she loves about the ancient instrument, and where it has taken her.



Where did you first encounter the organ? At a little Baptist church in Paterson, New Jersey, when I was a child. I sang in the choir and helped pull stops for the organist. I've always been fascinated by the instrument.

What fascinates you? It's this great color machine. There are flute stops, reed stops, trumpet, and trombone stops. It can move from the tiniest whisper to this great powerful voice. I'm attracted to the myriad possibilities.

In older music—in Bach—the stops [that add registers of flute, viola da gamba, etc.] are not written into the score. You have to design the sounds—with historical knowledge, of course. That's the organist's art.

Do you have a religious feeling about playing the organ? Yes, for me it's deeply spiritual. I have a strong life of prayer, and so my music comes out of my faith. But it also comes out of a lot of difficulty.

My son had cancer 12 years ago, when he was 8, and my marriage dissolved under the stress of the calamity. The surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy went on for two years, and at one point the doctors asked, "What do you do?" I said, "I'm a music teacher." They said, "No, no. What do you do?" I said,

"Organ-playing." They said, "Well, you should play."

Once Nick was better I started playing half-hour recitals in my church and half-hour recitals in my friends' churches. In 2002 I played Messiaen's "Les corps glorieux" at Riverside Church. I was terrified because it was such a big space and I hadn't played on that organ before and I'd never played the Messiaen publicly. Good thing I didn't know the *New York Times* was there. A friend called a couple days later and said, "Look on page E6." That was my first big review. At this point, I want to play as many recitals as I can.

Describe one of your favorite organs. St. Mary's in Gdansk—an enormous cathedral, like St. Patrick's or Riverside—has a fabulous organ. The case is from the seventeenth century. It was saved from a church that was bombed in World War II. It glows like a Fabergé egg. It's got gold and silver gilt all over, and hand-carved flowers and animals like a tapestry in wood. To get to the organ, you have to go outside to the side of the church and open this giant door with this giant key and walk up and up in a spiral of little stone steps with only a rope to hold onto—no railing. What you really expect at the top is a dragon.

QUICK TAKE

A PILGRIM INTO SILENCE

KAREN SWENSON '59

Tiger Bark Press, 2008, \$15.95

How Many Mothers?

How many mothers does one have?
The one before you're born
you only know in echoes.

Old letters, her death left
among bent snapshots of unknown
men in World War One khakis,
are dizzy still, some seventy
years later, with her bliss
at being beyond the rules, as if
she stood outside in thunderous
air grasping her risk charged with joy.

She stayed alone three months in Tunis,
wrote, "At Ramadan's
end the *Bey* walks the *souks* attended
by courtiers in their flashing
silks, shadowed velvets and the glint
of golden dagger hilts.
Men pressed against the stalls cheer —
waves
that swell before, die after."

II

The one that I believe I knew
for forty years, is she
more real than her precursor was?

The one hysterical
with rage, the one intimidated
by Princeton graduates,
the one who, when I had measles,
read me *Kidnapped* and *Kim*
but only traveled in

the big-sky summers through
seas of wheat to her Fargo aunts.



I match these with the backhand
that broke my nose, the lash of tongue
and dog-chain—"Stupid. Dumb.
You haven't got the sense God gave
a goose. You'll marry, never
hold a job." She taught me New York.
At nine, let me loose as
an elver on its avenues.

III

That one's dead. The last lives inside
me till I die, shape-shifter,
the shadow-mother of my mind.

Her letters reveling
in risk I jigsaw with the wife
who told me "Never marry,"
the grandma gleeful at her grandson's
pissed waterfall down garden
stairs; she let me piss down stairs, never.
She made me bloomers, made
me sit on the top stair while she

looked up at their lace edges
at what she thought was wanted from
a girl of five. The nose
that's broken in my mirror has
been reimbursed by the right
she gave me to roamings
in Thailand and Tibet. I'm her
urn of ashed memory.
All these mothers die with me.

RELEASES

NEW & UPCOMING

FICTION

UNACCUSTOMED EARTH

by Jhumpa Lahiri '89
Knopf, 2008, \$25

POETRY

IN THE PINES

by Alice Notley '67
Penguin, 2007, \$18

NONFICTION

MATERIALS FOR INTERIOR ENVIRONMENTS

by Corky (Gloria Bingley) Binggeli '69
Wiley, 2007, \$80

HAPPINESS IS AN INSIDE JOB:

PRACTICING FOR A JOYFUL LIFE

by Sylvia (Schor) Boorstein '56
Ballantine Books, 2007, \$22.95

ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES IN CHRISTIAN ART

by Susan Bratton '70
SUNY Press, 2007, \$30

HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS (THE INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE, ETHICS AND LAW)

edited by Rebecca J. Cook '70
and Charles G. Ngwena
Ashgate, 2007, \$275

LION IN THE WHITE HOUSE: A LIFE OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT

by Aida (DiPace) Donald '52
Basic Books, 2007, \$26

THE CONTENDERS

by Laura Flanders '85, Dean Kuipers, James
Ridgeway, Richard Goldstein, Elizabeth Sanders
Seven Stories Press, 2007, \$22.95

READY: WHY WOMEN ARE EMBRACING THE NEW LATER MOTHERHOOD

by Elizabeth Gregory '78
Basic Books, 2008, \$26

BEAUTY CONFIDENTIAL

by Nadine Haobsh '02
Harper Collins, 2007, \$13.95

GOOD DOG. STAY.

by Anna Quindlen '74
Random House, 2007, \$14.95

FACULTY

ANDORTHE: POEMS WITHIN A POEM

by Serge Gavronsky, Professor of French
Talisman, 2008, \$16.75

CD

A PLACE WHERE LOVE CAN GROW

by Faith featuring Felice Rosser '78
available at cdbaby.com, 2007, \$12.97

Complete listings online

MOVING THE CONVERSATION FORWARD

Increasingly on college campuses, academic freedom is defined as “freedom from being offended instead of freedom to express multiple points of view,” says Janet Jakobsen. At Barnard, Jakobsen demonstrates how difficult dialogues are not only a fundamental aspect of learning, but also our best hope for lasting social change.

As a bright-eyed idealist fresh out of Dartmouth College in the early 1980s, Janet Jakobsen went to work for an environmental consulting firm in Washington, D.C. The firm was studying one of the pressing environmental problems of the day: tall smokestacks in the industrial Midwest were pumping sulfur high into the atmosphere. The sulfur would insinuate its way into the clouds, and later fall onto New England as acid rain.

Jakobsen’s firm used state-of-the-art computer modeling to survey the range of potential strategies for solving the problem. Jakobsen’s role as a research assistant was to track the development of U.S. policy on the issue through a phalanx of congressional hearings and debates. She watched as various policies were gradually picked apart by a number of conflicting entities.

“One argument was that there was so much sulfur already in the atmosphere, that even if we stopped burning coal altogether, we might not get a reduction, and therefore we should do nothing,” Jakobsen says, shaking her head. “And that was what essentially happened. And that was shocking to me. I thought that the way you went about this was you did the rational analysis, you figured out the best policy, and you went with that.”

That was lesson one in Janet Jakobsen’s political education: the best policies supported by the best evidence don’t always win out in a democratic political contest because rationality can be trumped by political power.

Later, Jakobsen went to work for the Washington Office on Africa, where she promoted a congressional antiapartheid bill that would go on to become law when Congress overrode a presidential veto in 1986. The bill imposed sanctions on South Africa and reversed the Reagan administration’s policy of “constructive engagement.” There were no direct economic interests favoring sanctions and strong economic interests opposed to them. No constituency in the United States directly represented South Africa’s disenfranchised black majority. But there was a community of conscience drawn from a diverse coalition of multicultural and transnational civil rights activists, unions, and religious groups. The movement built around that community created a strong bipartisan coalition in favor of sanctions. And that community of conscience prevailed.

That was lesson two in Janet Jakobsen’s political education: a social movement based around a moral principle that knows how



to deploy its political resources wisely can defeat powerful economic interests determined to block it. Moral convictions matter, but it isn't enough to believe something strongly. A movement has to alter the structure of punishment and reward for politicians. The job of the movement is not necessarily to convert politicians morally, although that sometimes happens, Jakobsen notes. The movement has to make it so that its proposals also become politically expedient to support.

Watching and participating in this maneuvering aroused Jakobsen's curiosity and a desire to study the dynamics of belief and political action in a more systematic way throughout American history. So in the late 1980s Jakobsen applied to and ultimately enrolled in the graduate program in ethics and society at Emory University. There she studied how faith communities "lived their ethical commitments," and how social movements "enact a particular moral vision." She focused on how feminism interacted with religious movements throughout American history (sometimes as a partner and sometimes as an adversary) to bring about political change.

An Early Commitment to Feminism

Jakobsen's commitment to feminism came early: she enrolled at Dartmouth College in 1977, where she studied philosophy and economics in a setting openly hostile to her presence. There was a limit on the ratio of female to male students of about 1 to 3. "The sexism back then was overt, with people saying things to me like, 'I hate women,' and 'you don't belong here,'" she recalls. "And so that was a profound experience, and it affected me a great deal, and I became a feminist." She arrived in Washington, D.C., at a time when women still were a rarity, on the Hill and elsewhere.

At Emory, Jakobsen studied the nineteenth-century social movements—abolition, women's rights, and women's suffrage. She found that feminism

movements of the past often didn't fit into contemporary categories of political analysis. The temperance movement, for instance, was driven by a coalition of religious groups in alliance with feminists concerned about the spousal abuse that alcohol abetted. Temperance was the reflection of one strand of feminism that focused on treating women better by raising the moral tone of the country. And though we think of the country's short-lived prohibition of alcohol today as a profoundly conservative policy, many of the feminists who supported it saw it as progress on behalf of women.

"The interesting thing you learn when you study religion in politics is that the commitments run across the political spectrum," she says, citing the Civil Rights movement as one movement identified with the Left but heavily influenced by religion. "It's hard to remember this now, when people only identify religion with the conservative Right."

Jakobsen's continuing engagement with the history of feminism, religion, and political movements made her uniquely well-suited for a role working at the intersection of academia and practical politics, scholarship and a living political movement. Today, Jakobsen directs two initiatives at Barnard in which she does just that.

The Barnard Center for Research on Women is among the first and most prominent research centers of its kind in the world. Eight years ago, Jakobsen left the University of Arizona to become director of the Center, following the previous director, Leslie Calman '74, who led the Center for seven years. The center opened in 1971 with the stated intent of producing research about the status of women and initiating conversations that would drive feminism forward. Its stature in the academic world quickly grew, as did its role in an emerging women's movement. (Noted feminist scholar Catharine R. Stimson served as chair of the task force that created the center; she became its first acting director.) The title of its first

symposium posed the question, "Is There Sexism at Columbia University?"

To help stimulate feminist thought and action today, the Center publishes an electronic Web journal of feminist theories and women's movements, *The Scholar & Feminist Online*, which also offers the public access to the Center's programming. And it mounts a series of conferences and public events, including the annual daylong Scholar & Feminist Conference held every spring. This year's event, The State of Democracy: Gender & Political Participation, takes place on March 1. The Center has organized a panel discussion for April 28 in honor of Barnard's outgoing president, Judith R. Shapiro, to consider Shapiro's contributions to women's education and leadership, and her advocacy for academic freedom. A full event schedule throughout the academic year address issues from a feminist response to violence to the persistent challenges in achieving family/work balance. "Everything we do is about connecting the best of public feminism to the College and the best of what happens in the academy to the public," says Jakobsen.

Jakobsen also serves as principal investigator for the Barnard component of the nationwide "Difficult Dialogues" initiative. "Difficult Dialogues" is run by the Ford Foundation; the Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression in Charlottesville, Virginia, helps coordinate and facilitate the program, which seeks to initiate a discussion on how to preserve the spirit of free academic inquiry amid increasing religious, political, and other conflict on campuses. The Ford Foundation wanted professors and administrators to talk frankly about how to address the most hotly contested issues of the day—"fundamentalism and secularism, racial and ethnic tension, the Middle East conflict, religion and the university, sexual orientation, and academic freedom," as the "Difficult Dialogues" Web site spells them out.

"The academy is not about a litigious understanding of what is happening. The academy is at its best when people come together specifically around controversy."

Difficult Dialogues: Ensuring Academic Freedom

Barnard President Judith Shapiro was a part of a team of academic administrators who met to design this program in the fall of 2004. She was one of the two people (the other was Robert O'Neil of the Thomas Jefferson Center) who presented the initial proposal to the trustees of the Ford Foundation in late January 2005. And Shapiro delivered the keynote speech to the "Difficult Dialogues" national conference in New York City last September.

Protecting academic freedom has been a hallmark of Shapiro's presidency. In a column she wrote for this magazine in the spring of 2006, Shapiro addressed the problems that "Difficult Dialogues" will confront. Students, coming from "fairly homogenous hometown communities," may often, "in the interest of maintaining comfort, peace, and civility ... avoid touching on sensitive issues with classmates of markedly dissimilar backgrounds and beliefs."

"Unfortunately," Shapiro wrote, "such silence and distancing maintain only a veneer of comfort, peace, and civility. What are actually maintained are ignorance, misunderstanding, and distrust. The placid veneer will inevitably be shattered by periodic campus flare-ups, such as those we've seen at various universities over the rights and responsibilities of controversial professors."

Indeed, there has been a rising tendency, according to Jakobsen, to define academic freedom as, "*freedom from being offended* instead of the *freedom to express* multiple points of view." Jakobsen points to various legislative initiatives that call for greater

political "balance" in the way certain issues are presented in classrooms. "We need a reinvigorated notion of academic freedom to contest these challenges to free inquiry," Jakobsen says.

She continues, "The Ford Foundation saw that something in American public culture had eroded the understanding of education. We need to assert a more robust view of education that understands academic freedom to be a project which is for the public good, and is about knowledge production."

The foundation put out a call for proposals to all accredited colleges and universities in the country that enrolled undergraduates, seeking out strategies to end this silence and open up sensitive issues to productive debate; it received over 675 grant applications, and awarded \$100,000 grants to 27 institutions (another 16 received stipends), each with a unique approach to some aspect of these issues. The project was a natural for Barnard, Jakobsen says. "We have a strong religion department, and we've dealt with social conflicts." In addition to running the Center, Jakobsen teaches classes in both the women's studies and religion departments. "We had been looking at religious issues earlier than many other places, and we have real religious diversity in the student body as well, so we developed a proposal that builds on that history."

Barnard's program, launched in the fall of 2006 with Jakobsen in the role of principal investigator, consists of four discrete components:

- Two yearlong seminars: the first, in 2006-07, consisted of a dozen Barnard faculty, including most of the religion department, examining,

as Shapiro has said, "the often contentious relationship between religious doctrine and modern freedoms, and the interaction of personal beliefs with public life"; the second seminar in the current academic year focuses on gender and Africana studies.

- The creation of a "Reacting to the Past" seminar tentatively titled "The Founding of Israel, 1947-48." It will cast students in the role of participants in that conflict in a simulation game intended to convey the full complexity of that conflict. [See "Gaming," page 73.]
- A first-year "Global Literatures" course has been developed by the English department.
- A new seminar "Religion vs. the Academy," is being taught by an expert on Christianity and an expert on Hinduism and is considering the challenges of teaching religion in an academic setting. The course features visits by religious leaders and outside scholars.

Jakobsen moderates the semester faculty seminar. The first addressed conflicts between religion and academic freedom. The participants—all Barnard faculty members—talked about controversies over the portrayal of the Hindu religion in the U.S., and the place of religion in academic institutions, among other subjects.

Jakobsen is writing a book about the various and changing meanings of the word freedom. She notes that "'academic freedom,' as we understand it today, is a product of a long history of the movement away from religious authority
Continued on Page 73





WHAT A GREAT TIME IT'S BEEN

On an afternoon late last semester, Judith Shapiro sat down for a conversation with the chair of the Barnard Board, writer Anna Quindlen, in the president's office in Milbank Hall. One wall of the room is hung with artifacts from the tropical forests of South America, a tribute to President Shapiro's life as an anthropologist; on a ledge are stacks of books written by Barnard authors. As the two have done many times before, the president and the chair spoke about cutting-edge issues in higher education, the challenge of women's colleges in the twenty-first century, and the importance of Nora.

Let me begin by noting that Virginia Gildersleeve ran Barnard for 36 years, and you've been here for a mere 14. So what's your hurry?

As it happens, the first off-campus event my first year took me to Florida. There were many members of the Gildersleeve years, Classes of the '30s. And so after I did my thing about Barnard, even though I had barely arrived as president, one of these elderly ladies raised her hand and asked me just how long I was planning to be president of Barnard. And I thought, My god, I just arrived, does she want to get rid of me? And then, before I could answer, she said, "Because there's entirely too much coming and going." I pointed out that Ellen Futter, my predecessor, had been there for a good 13, 14 years, and then, of course, I realized that this alumna's standard of service was Dean Gildersleeve. I guess we just can't all last that long.

Your tenure is about twice that of the average college president's. Do we underestimate how difficult these jobs are and how 24/7 they've become?

The jobs are complicated, and there are different pressures for university presidents and liberal arts college presidents. Being a liberal arts college president, in my view, has a far lower ratio of aggravation to gratification—especially for me, given that I have been living in the Shangri-La of Barnard—because you really are part of a community. It is like being the mayor of a small town. So you get to really know the faculty, for example. You know what their research is about, you send them clippings, things relevant to their work. And you get to know and work with students. And also there's so much less bureaucracy, so that when you need to get something done, your administrative colleagues are right around you. Having a four-and-a-half-acre campus brings things together very nicely.

There is a connection here with my deciding to become an anthropologist. Nowadays, anthropologists, of course, work everywhere, but the idea of working

in a community on a human scale was very appealing to me. And that's very much what Barnard is. So the reason I am leaving now is not that I just can't bear to do it anymore. It's more that this is the right transitional time, both for me in my life and also in the planning cycle of the College.

You mentioned that you're an anthropologist, which I know in part because in virtually every substantive conversation, you use an analogy from that discipline. And you once said something really interesting about anthropology. You said, "As an anthropologist, you try to retain your sense of naiveté, always asking questions, but not assuming you know the answer." Is that a good way to operate as a college president?

It's a very good way to operate. And, in fact, it was good for me to become an anthropologist, because I have exactly the opposite tendency. I talk fast, I think fast. As I sometimes say, "My mind is made up, but it's not closed." So I think I have too much of a tendency by temperament to think I already know the answer. I sometimes even interrupt my own sentences because I know how they're going to end.

Also, adopting that stance is a wonderful defense mechanism. Because any irritating or threatening situation can immediately be construed as fieldwork. And you try to do that sort of participant observation. I'm in this, and yet I'm also outside of it, looking in.

I was on the search committee that chose you, and I remember how we emphasized the Barnard-Columbia relationship. You recently reminded me that we asked what you would do if you found yourself in a cab with George Rupp. Your response was, "Well, I'd pay for the cab." Can you reflect on the relationship and why it's so much better today than when you arrived?

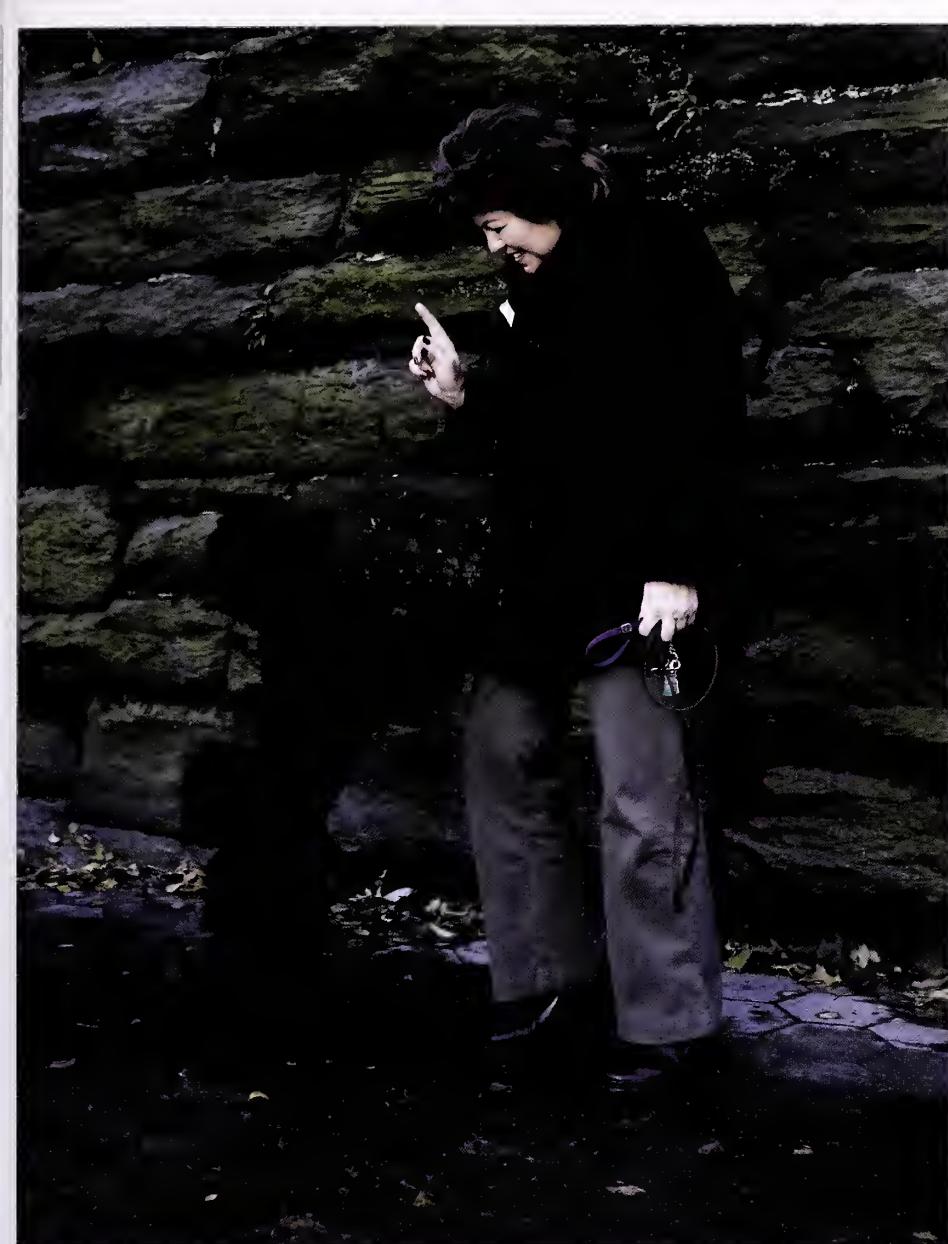
I think the main reason is that Barnard has become so much stronger. Whether

you look at admissions, whether you look at faculty appointments, fund-raising, our financial management, management across the board—it's just become a stronger institution that Columbia can now respect more. And we've also developed programs that they don't have, which has been a very important strategic goal. So that even though they are so much larger, there are things they depend on us for.

But I also remember someone at Columbia saying to me, "Now, you must keep in mind that the relationship between Barnard and Columbia is not the same as the relationship between Bryn Mawr and Haverford." At the time of this conversation, I was still at Bryn Mawr and trying to decide about being a candidate for the Barnard presidency. And I said, "Oh, I certainly understand that." But, in fact, every day I have been president, I have behaved as if it were exactly the same relationship, namely, a relationship of peers. Our brilliant late Columbia colleague Robert Merton developed the idea of the self-fulfilling prophecy. In this case, a self-fulfilling prophecy means that you behave in the way you wish to be treated. And that comes to pass.

My PhD is from the anthropology department at Columbia, so that connection was helpful. And then it certainly was helpful to have grown up and gone to grade school with the former Columbia provost, Jonathan Cole. We went to P.S. 26 and Jamaica High School together. We have very high regard for each other; we share many core values about academic excellence and academic freedom. And I think the current president of Columbia, Lee Bollinger, is a good, feminist friend. He has always been respectful of Barnard and, I think, is pleased with the relationship, as well.

He came under fire recently when the president of Iran spoke at Columbia. You once wrote a column in the alumnae magazine about the role of presidents on controversial issues in which you tried to balance



"I do think that presidents are often more boring than they need to be when they speak. And so I have not always curbed my sense of humor."

the opportunities of the bully pulpit with the danger of alienating alums, students, parents, and donors. And you concluded, "Most college and university presidents take the safe course." What is the correct balance for a college president in 2008?

First of all, it is important to speak out on issues affecting higher education, especially when it's a matter of principle that connects with the mission of the institution. For example, we had a very painful and difficult tenure case this past year with a lot of external pressure being brought to bear on the College. In that situation, it was such a core value of the institution to stand by our tenure process. I felt that I was safeguarding the future of the College and so it was very clear to me

what I had to do there.

I do think that presidents are often more boring than they need to be when they speak. And so I have not always curbed my sense of humor. Presidents could have a little more rhetorical elegance and humor and wit and irony. Some of them speak as if they were suffering from irony deficiency anemia.

At the same time, if you look at what happened to someone like Larry Summers at Harvard, I think it's true that you are never, ever *not* speaking as president of your institution.

Your inaugural address still reads as though it could have been written last week. And in it you made a particularly interesting case for a women's college.

You said, "Why are women's colleges constantly being asked to account for themselves in a way that coeducational institutions are not?"

Could you talk a little bit about that accounting, about whether it still continues, either in relation to Columbia University or out in the greater world, and how you respond to it today?

I think there's a general point to be made there that's not unconnected with being an anthropologist, that is, to never accept the frame you are presented with. So I think the strategy must be to turn it around and question it, and even to interrogate the very concept of coeducation, because for most of their histories, most coeducational institutions have been colleges and universities that

"Barnard has such a strong profile as a women's college in terms of our alumnae, so the kinds of women that are associated with the College is a tremendous strength."

were basically male-dominated but accepted women as students. So you say, "Okay, you want to talk coeducation? What does your board of trustees look like? How many women have chaired your board? What does your faculty look like? How many female department chairs, how many senior faculty?"

It's great that women can now attend these wonderful coeducational schools. And if women's colleges were the only hope for women's advancement, we would be in a very tough position indeed, because there aren't all that many of them. But I do think that they are, to use a religious metaphor, the leavening in the dough. I think they're the ones that can be counted on to advance the interests of women. And so in the Barnard-Columbia context, I think Barnard can help Columbia be more truly coeducational.

Yet I have to sadly note that you yourself did not attend a women's college.

Ah, it is true.

What were you thinking?

I don't know. I applied to two colleges, Brandeis and Smith. I chose them because I really wanted to be a theatre major. I wasn't really thinking women's college or not women's college, that wasn't even on my radar screen as a point of choice. I ended up going to Brandeis and within two weeks, I was a history major. Brandeis in the early '60s was heaven itself in terms of artistic ferment and intellectual life.

Now, I had no conscious awareness that I was disadvantaged by being a woman. Because, if you were smart, that was the coin of the realm. But as I have looked back, I have seen that I had no women faculty members, with one exception—a relatively junior biology faculty member who, as I recall, taught a huge lecture, an introductory biology course. There was one very eminent woman in the psychology department, but I didn't study with her. Then, going on to Columbia, again, I did very well as a student—but there were no women in the department.

My discovery of the wonderful world of women's colleges—and since we all live long, it's never too late to discover these things—was as a faculty member and administrator. While I was at the University of Chicago, where I was the first and only woman in the anthropology department, I interviewed for a position at Bryn Mawr. I met the deans—the undergraduate and graduate deans at Bryn Mawr—and they're both these monumental women. You know, Pat McPherson, who's well over six feet tall, very impressive. Phyllis Bober, the graduate dean, a great classicist, who looked like something on the front of a major ship. And I thought I'd discovered the Land of the Amazons.

So there I was at Bryn Mawr, and that's when I really got it. The faculty was just about 50/50 men and women. Nobody noticed whether the department chair was a man or a woman. As I've often said, women's colleges are not only great for women, but great for the relationships between women and men. Very egalitarian. Very nonsexist. When I had

been provost long enough, I wasn't sure I wanted to be a college president. And I had become so dedicated and admiring of that world of women's colleges that I just wanted to stay within it. So the idea wasn't just to be a college president. It really was Barnard.

Walk me through your typical day at Barnard College.

Well, one of the reasons I like the job is that I don't really have a typical day. It could involve a little bit of everything. Let's say it could involve a breakfast board meeting for one of the nonprofit boards I'm on, so I may be hurtling downtown. And then coming back here, there is likely to be at least one meeting with a member of my senior staff. We have weekly regular check-ins. There may be a group of students who might want to see me about something. I may then be having lunch with a donor, or with a faculty committee. One thing I noticed coming from Bryn Mawr is that here, faculty committees never meet unless they are served a meal. Barnard marches on its stomach, it really does.

If it's the first Monday of the month, then there's an all-faculty meeting. And, again, we have a faculty of a size where they can all be in the room and really form a community.

Every day, hundreds of e-mails come. On the one hand, it expands the amount of work you do, but it also means that certain things can be handled much more rapidly than they would have otherwise.

Every night, the big mailbag goes home. Outside mail, inside mail, letters to be signed. And then there's often a dinner or an event in the evening. There may be a Barnard event of the kind that presidents do, or there may be a good or exciting lecture on campus that I'll really want to hear. And then on a night when I might have some free time, I find it extremely relaxing to needlepoint or knit while watching reruns of *Law & Order*. You know, spending time with Jerry Orbach is my idea of a good evening.

How much student contact do you have?

Well, just last night, for example, I had one of my senior dinners. And that's a tradition that I started and that I think would be a nice tradition to continue. The senior dean organizes the seniors into groups by major. Last night, we had history, political science, urban studies, and American studies students. And they just come over for a buffet supper with a lot of the faculty members in those fields. And it's totally informal. They talk about their thesis research with each other. And it's in the apartment. Nora runs around for a little while ...

I think you need to explain Nora.

Nora is my fabulous, wonderful, terrific miniature poodle who is named for Nora Charles [a main character in Dashiell Hammett's *The Thin Man*] and is indeed extremely socially adept. She sees people in, she mingles during parties. We put her in another room when food is being served, since she can sometimes get too enthusiastic about sharing dinner with people. And some of them are sitting on the floor, if there's a big crowd. And then she comes out again as dessert is concluding, so she can say good-bye to her guests. And students adore her.

So how many of the senior dinners do you have a year?

About six or seven. Then there are various student groups and leaders that I meet with regularly. Sometimes a stray anthropology student will come by to talk about her work. And I also give little cameo appearances in courses. So this semester, not that long ago, I gave a guest lecture in the advanced level anthropological theory course that Brian Larkin teaches.

Let's talk about some of the hot-button issues in higher ed. At Barnard, we cap the number of students accepted via the early decision process. Other institutions have gotten rid of early decision entirely. What are the pros and cons of this process?

I think the first issue is, what is the student up to in applying early decision? Some students apply early decision because they have started really doing research quite a while ago—in my view, actually, rather too early in a lot of cases. And they really have a clear and well-informed sense of where they want to go for good reason. I think that Barnard has such a distinctive identity and set of features as an institution, that the students who apply to Barnard early decision know very well why. Also one thing I like very much is that the financial aid profile of our early decision applicants looks not very different from the financial aid profile of our regular admits. Because one of the criticisms is that you get more affluent students, because they don't have to compare financial aid offers. So I feel that it doesn't skew the College out of its mission. I feel that the students who are doing it are mostly not gaming the system. At the same time, I want to limit it, because I think it is important to give plenty of opportunity to those students who haven't made up their minds yet.

I think the institutions that can most afford, to be quite honest, to get rid of early decision, are institutions that tend to be first choice for their applicants. We are increasingly first choice for our applicants, but we also need, because we're tuition-driven, a lot of those overlappers with Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Penn, Columbia. To assume that we are first choice for all of those kids, I think, would be a little bit hubristic.

You were one of the college presidents who helped lead a sort of uprising against the U.S. News & World Report rankings. Why is that?

Well, I think there are a few problems with it. Now, to be sure, for families, it's nice to have someplace to go and compare. And to some extent, they can find useful information in *U.S. News* or in other places that publish institutional data. But does the data collected actually reflect what they're saying it's supposed to measure? This is the proverbial drunk

looking for his car keys under a lamppost, not because he lost them there, but because the light is good there. So you measure what you can measure.

For example, they measure faculty quality, faculty resources by faculty salaries. Now, we've done so much better on faculty salaries than we had in the past, but you know, we're not paying them what we would like to pay them, what we wish we could afford to pay them. But if you're looking for a faculty that combines scholarly distinction with dedication to teaching, you're not going to do better than Barnard.

Also, they look at how many part-time faculty members you have. Well, they don't distinguish between whether they are TAs teaching in your core courses, or a large wonderful dance program staffed by dancers from the American Ballet Theatre, the New York City Ballet, and Alvin Ailey. They also measure alumnae satisfaction by the proportion of alumnae giving. That's not an accurate measure, although I can always say to our graduates, "Excuse me, even *U.S. News* thinks that you should show your appreciation by giving more." What they can't measure is the fact that Barnard women, whether they give or not, tend to feel that the College has transformed their lives and made them the women they are today.

The idea that colleges and universities in the United States can be put into a list—I mean, who knows where Brandeis would have been? It had been founded 10 years before I attended. But all I needed to know was that you would find really smart, terrific people, and that was that.

We're also penalized in that *U.S. News* ranking by the size of our endowment. I think that when you arrived it was about \$60 million and now it's slightly over \$200 million, but we are still, to use a phrase, underendowed.

Well, the historical reasons have to do with the fact that Barnard was never founded with some substantial gift or endowment. Then I think a major feature

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THE ROLE OF A LIFETIME



At the end of her first year at Barnard, Judith Shapiro serenaded members of the Class of 1945 at their 50th reunion celebration. President Shapiro's performance received a rave response from the alumnae, followed by an honorable mention in the *New York Times*. Since she first took the stage at Barnard, Judith Shapiro has inspired the campus community with her own charismatic brand of grace, humor, and style. More important, she has been a leader of far-seeing wisdom, strategic thinking, and everyday smarts. She has brought out the best in her colleagues and in almost everybody associated with Barnard. During her tenure, a historically great college has become better than ever. This timeline presents highlights of President Shapiro's triumphant 14-year run on upper Broadway.



October 27, 1994

Judith Shapiro is inaugurated as the 10th leader and sixth president of Barnard College before 2,000 people at Riverside Church. The festive ceremony includes representatives of 145 colleges and universities, 37 college presidents, alumnae of all ages, and 96-year-old former president Millicent McIntosh.



1994-95

Judith Shapiro opens her home to graduating students, their professors and their deans for a series of Senior Dinners, which immediately become a popular addition to Barnard's yearly calendar.

1995

Barnard renovates its psychology and environmental science facilities in Altschul Hall.

1995-96

For the first time in the history of the "Seven Sisters," more students apply to Barnard than to any other women's college in the renowned group.

September 1996

A six-month strike by UAW Local 2110, over the difficult issue of health benefits, ends. This challenging period in the history of the College's labor relations is followed by an era of improved relations and collaboration.

1998

The Arthur Ross Greenhouse is dedicated atop Milbank Hall, replacing a smaller greenhouse built in 1928.

1998-99

The Nine Ways of Knowing, new general education requirements, are approved by the Barnard faculty following a three-year curriculum review.

“Barnard and Columbia have never enjoyed a more seamless working relationship than they have under the leadership of President Shapiro. Her vision, ferocity, and dedication to the advancement of women have elevated Barnard to the highest level of undergraduate education. In doing so, she also has inspired her students, colleagues, and school to expect more of themselves and of each other. The University as a whole has been touched and elevated by her service.”

Lee Bollinger, President, Columbia University



March 1998
Barnard and Columbia extend their intercorporate agreement for an additional 10 years.

May 1998
Judith Shapiro includes essays by Barnard's literary alumnae in her published collection *The Source of the Spring: Mothers through the Eyes of Women Writers*.

November 1998
Judith Shapiro is named one of America's most influential women by *Vanity Fair* magazine.

December 1998
A tradition is born, as Judith Shapiro and other leading administrators line up at the buffet table and serve the first midnight breakfast to students studying for final exams.

2000
The Barnard Campaign reaches its successful culmination. Fundraising has brought in \$162.9 million for endowment growth and capital spending on major campus projects.

2001
Barnard's first technology plan guides upgrades to the College's computer network, enhancements to its technology services, and a campus-wide shift to multimedia classrooms with integrated systems.

“Judith Shapiro has been a clear and strong voice for the women of Barnard College, and an advocate for the people of Harlem and Morningside Heights.

She will continue to serve as a model for future leaders, and will be missed by all those who have known her as a neighbor and friend.”

David N. Dinkins, 106th Mayor, City of New York



2001
Applications for admittance to Barnard, after increasing 132% in 10 years, reach an all-time record high.

September 11, 2001
Judith Shapiro addresses the campus community at an assembly on Lehman Lawn in the immediate wake of the terrorist attacks; the following year on this day, a memorial ceremony and tree planting on Lehman Lawn honor the victims of 9/11.

October 27, 2001
Judith Shapiro welcomes more than 1,000 participants to the first Barnard Summit, *Women, Leadership and the Future*. Speakers include Janet Reno, former U.S. Attorney General, and Marian Wright Edelman, founder and president of the Children's Defense Fund; the event is followed in April, 2003, by a 2nd summit dedicated to women's health issues.

November 2001
The Barnard Center for Research on Women marks its 30th anniversary at a celebration attended by 450 scholars and activists.

2001-02
Barnard plots its future by completing a new strategic plan and embarking on a campus master plan. On April 25, 2002, the *New York Times* covers the master plan.

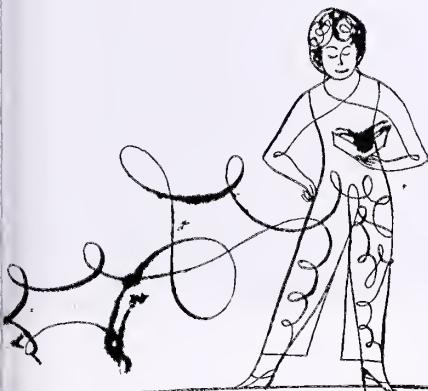
2002
The Sloate Media Center opens on the 3rd floor of Wollman Library, with a state-of-the-art control room/digital editing studio and a multimedia classroom. Students and faculty now have advanced facilities and assistance for projects involving audio and video production, Powerpoint presentation, and Web design. The Center inspires the creation of an adjacent public media area with additional digital work stations.



"Judith has a remarkable way of reaching out to alumnae.

The number of alumnae involved with the College has grown enormously—and we're seeing that engagement result in commitment. In the last four years alone, average unrestricted revenues increased by 55%, compared with the previous four years, and restricted gifts and pledges increased by 83%."

*Jolyne Caruso-Fitzgerald '81, Barnard Trustee and Co-Chair,
Institutional Advancement Committee*



October 30, 2002

The Vagelos Alumnae Center opens, welcoming Barnard graduates to their own roomy and comfortable on-campus meeting place.

January 29, 2003

Judith Shapiro hosts the launch of the *Scholar and Feminist Online*, the online journal of the Barnard Center for Research on Women and the first peer-reviewed journal of its kind.

April 2003

President Shapiro is inducted into the American Philosophical Society, the country's first "learned society," founded by Benjamin Franklin and other eminent scholars and statesmen in 1743.

2002-03

The Rosemary Furman Counseling Center opens and provides enhanced support services for students.

Spring 2003

Placing Barnard front and center in urban affairs, Judith Shapiro forges a partnership with the New York City Women's Commission, revived under Mayor Michael Bloomberg; in the spring of 2007, Shapiro will sign on as one of the city's college/university presidents leading Mayor Bloomberg's green team.

June 2003 – June 2005

Judith Shapiro serves as president of the Morningside Area Alliance, leading member institutions in their collaborative efforts to improve local schools, parkland, youth services, security, and the overall quality of life in the neighborhood.



July 2003
President Shapiro revisits the Tapirapé Indians and her earlier anthropological studies, traveling to Brazil as a research consultant for a Smithsonian Institution team of curators for the new National Museum of the American Indian.

2003-04
Barnard launches the New York City Civic Engagement Program, using curricular and co-curricular programs to prepare students for community leadership and active citizenship.

2003-04
Barnard launches the Financial Fluency Program, a personal-finance education series for alumnae.

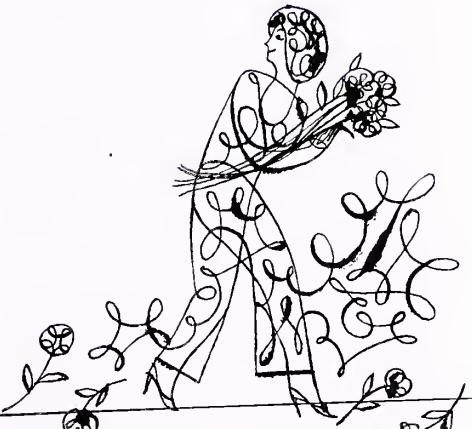
2003-04
Barnard professors obtain a record-high \$3,850,866 in external funding for scholarly research.

November 6, 2005
Great Writers at Barnard assembles an unprecedented gathering of literary talent.

2005-06
One of the first multi-use college residence halls in the country, Cathedral Gardens opens to provide living space for students and faculty, and program space for members of the community.

“One can think of Barnard as something of a literary hatchery, like London’s Bloomsbury Circle or the 1920s Paris of Hemingway, Fitzgerald and Joyce, where a certain confluence of talent, ambition and what moderns would call networking generates an astonishing literary crop.”

The New York Times, September 19, 2007



2006
The Barnard Leadership Initiative is launched.

Spring 2007
President Shapiro announces she will step down as president of Barnard College in June, 2008.

Summer 2007
Nexus construction begins.

October 6, 2007
Judith Shapiro is inducted into The American Academy of Arts and Sciences, an honor shared by more than 160 Nobel laureates and 50 Pulitzer Prize winners.

November-December 2007
The trustees of Barnard and Columbia approve an extended, amended intercorporate agreement covering the next decade, and laying the groundwork for a strong relationship well into the future.

December 2007
At the annual holiday gathering of Barnard friends and supporters, a record turnout of guests raises a martini glass to the College’s beloved Judith R. Shapiro.



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

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known as the Seven Sisters. The theme of this year's plenary session was *Leadership and the Evolving Mission of Women's Colleges*—which also happens to be the theme of this issue of *Barnard Magazine*—and for those of us representing Barnard at the conference, it was gratifying not only to report on our own leadership initiatives for students, but to learn of the extent to which our sister institutions are thinking and acting in similar ways.

It's hardly surprising that colleges dedicated to the advancement of women are addressing issues of women and leadership through ambitious curricular and co-curricular programs. And it is especially interesting and important to examine our means and motivation at this specific time—a time when female undergraduates are starting to outnumber and academically outperform males on many coed campuses. The Seven College Conference was an opportunity to frame a discussion of leadership initiatives within an analysis of exactly what our schools offer that coed institutions do not, and to frankly assess the status and future of women's colleges and their special role in the diverse, ever-evolving sphere of higher education.

Today, the benefits women derive from single-sex education at the undergraduate level continue to be appreciated by almost everyone who graduates from Barnard and other highly distinguished women's colleges, and by graduates of lesser-known women's schools as well. Those benefits have also been documented by objective outside analysts, including the authors of a study I mentioned in a previous column. In that study, the National Survey of Student Engagement, experts at the Indiana University Center for Postsecondary Research found that on virtually every front, women's colleges offer their students an educational experience superior to that offered by coed schools.

I was particularly impressed and intrigued by the Indiana study's findings on the superiority of women's colleges in preparing their students for leadership and citizenship. Predictably, the study found that single-sex schools offer young women boundless opportunities to assume, handle, and learn from

positions of leadership on campus, and that our students have a high number of female role models among leading administrators in all spheres and professors in all disciplines. Less predictably, and to my delight, the study also revealed that, in comparison to coed institutions, women's colleges do a markedly better job of promoting in young adults an "understanding of themselves and others" and a "desire to contribute to the welfare of their community." In other words, as they prepare young women for positions of authority and influence in the wider world, women's colleges produce the kind of leaders our world desperately needs.

Of course, the need for enlightened leadership and the full participation of women in civic and professional life extends far beyond our national borders. Because women are half of the world's population and constitute a vast reservoir of productivity and talent, gender equity is an economic, social, and political necessity as well as an issue of justice and human rights. Recognizing the role education plays in liberation, the participants of the Seven College Conference agreed that, at the same time we provide a famously stellar education here, we should expand our efforts to reach out to girls' schools and women's colleges around the world and build supportive international relationships.

From its earliest years, Barnard has educated women who went on to make headlines and effect positive change. Today, as women assume leadership roles that were unimaginable a few decades back, Barnard's role in higher education is as critical as ever. In politics, medicine, media, and so many fields, the stakes are immense: We need enlightened, bold, and thoughtful women to lead the way.

I know that when I attend my final commencement as president and stand to address the Barnard Class of 2008, I will find great inspiration in Brenda Galván and everyone else in that bright and promising group. I also know that wherever life takes me after this academic year, I will be enduringly proud of the part I've played in enabling talented young women to meet their fullest potential—first as Barnard students, then as Barnard graduates, and forever as women of conscience, creativity, acute thinking, and active citizenship.

SYLLABUS: LEARNING TO LEAD

Continued from Page 14

studies, every student must also fulfill the requirements of her separate academic major.

BLI's co-curricular component is overseen by Suzanne Stein, associate dean in the Office of Career Development. Barnard students are offered skills workshops, internships, career mentoring by alumnae, entrée to national conferences, informal meetings with top leaders of major New York-based institutions, and "Learning from Leaders" talks, where guest speakers address purely student audiences.

The initiative is also sponsoring a new public-event series at Barnard, with co-sponsorship and financing by the Lehman Brothers Fund for Women in Leadership. These lectures and symposia will feature speakers who have achieved prominence in government, business, and other key societal spheres. In addition to appearing on campus at public events, speakers will participate in sessions of relevant Barnard classes and in informal small-group conversations with students. On March 11, 2008, the series will introduce the Barnard community to military pioneer Marsha Johnson Evans, the first woman with the rank of rear admiral in the U.S. Navy. Evans is a former executive director of the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. and a former president of the American Red Cross.

On the academic side, after two years on the curriculum, the "Women and Leadership" seminar is already a huge hit with students. The course's wide-reaching syllabus was designed by Rosalind Rosenberg and her colleague Liz Abzug, who is an adjunct professor of urban studies, an entrepreneurial businesswoman, and the feminist-activist daughter of the late Congresswoman and feminist icon Bella Abzug. Liz Abzug taught the class during its two successful inaugural semesters, Rosenberg is teaching it in 2008.

Limited to 18 students, the class studies the social foundations of the male face of power in the U.S. and around the world, as well as the hard-won triumphs of women in attaining varying degrees of authority. As they examine the struggles and status of women in business, politics, *Continued on Page 72*

BALLOT**Alumnae Association
of Barnard College**

This is the ballot prepared by the Alumnae Association of Barnard College nominating committee. No independent petitions have been received. Vote for your candidate by marking an "x" in the box to the left of her name. The ballot must be postmarked no later than May 1.

Nominating Committee**Members / 3 years (Vote for 3)**

- Sabiya Mir Amanat '92
- Pamela Durborow Gallagher '69
- Alison C. Hockenberry '88
- Audrey Appel Sterenfeld '55
- Helen C. Weil '44
- Darin White '98

Members of the nominating committee 2007–2008: Florence Federman Mann '55, chair; Frances Jeffery Abramowitz '48; Barbara Ballinger '71; Amrita Dalal '90; Victoria L. Lordin '79; Michele C. McCarthy '93; Catharine Raffaele '70; Merri Rosenberg '78; Jessica Wells '00

Treasurer

Frances L. Sadler '72

The Barnard Fund

Carol H. Cohen '59

Bylaws

Binta Brown '95

Communications

Jami Bernard '78

Fellowship

Janet Bersin Finke '56

Nominating

Florence Mann '55

Professional Leadership and Development

Rebecca Amitai '79

Leadership Council

Linda Sweet '63

Regional Networks

Myra Greenspoon Kovey '65

Reunion

Nieca Goldberg '79

Student Government Association President

Laura Stoffel '08

Young Alumnae

Jyoti Menon '01**ALUMNAE AFFAIRS**

Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Cameran Mason

Director

Marilyn Chin '74

Senior Associate Director

Vanessa Corba '96

Associate Director, Reunion and Leadership Council

Erin Frederick '01

Manager, Regional Alumnae Programs

Alice Eckstein '89

Manager, Recent Alumnae, Students, and Multicultural Programs

Elizabeth H. Glynn

Project Continuum Coordinator

Annette Stramesi Kahn '67

Financial Fluency Coordinator

Christine Valenza Shin '84**Board of Directors**

(Vote for one candidate for each office)

President (3 years)

- Frances L. Sadler '72

Vice-President (3 years)

- Mary Ann LoFrumento '77

**Director-At-Large,
Alma Mater Committee Chair (3 years)**

- Nicole Lowen Vianna '81

Young Alumnae Committee Chair (3 years)

- Ashley Kelly '04

ge was established in 1895
nect graduates worldwide.



ly she serves as treasurer.
I young alumnae, Frances
activities of BOSS and
s department.

VICE PRESIDENT**Mary Ann
LoFrumento '77**

An eminent pediatrician, Mary Ann LoFrumento has more than two decades of experience treating children, guiding parents, and educating new doctors. A psychology major, she received her medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania. Mary Ann completed her medical residency at Babies Hospital of Columbia-Presbyterian. She launched Franklin Pediatrics, in Morristown, N.J., and was its managing partner for over 17 years. Currently she is attending physician at Goryeb Children's Hospital. Mary Ann's advice and counsel has been sought by numerous media outlets. In addition to appearances on radio and cable television, she is a contributor to such magazines as *Redbook*, *Parenting*, and *Woman's Day*, and to online sites such as Babytalk.com and BabyCenter.com. In 2003, Mary Ann launched *Simply Parenting*, a book and DVD series for new and/or anxious parents. An active Barnard volunteer and longtime class officer, she currently serves as class correspondent and is a member of the Leadership Council committee of the Alumnae Association.

**DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE,
CHAIR OF ALMA
MATER COMMITTEE****Nicole Lowen Vianna '81**

An economics major who graduated *magna cum laude*, Nicole did graduate work in

nominating committee. A postcard ballot can be found in this issue. Please mail the completed ballots no later than May 1. Results will be announced at Reunion.

Alumnae Association

Barnard College

3009 Broadway

New York, NY 10027-6598

**PRESIDENT****Frances L. Sadler '72**

Frances, a psychology and education major, has been a health-care administrator, working in

home-health and community-based care for the past 25 years. She has served on the board of directors of the Home Care Association for nine years. Frances also has been a teacher and educator, working in the New York City public school system and with home-care workers, Sunday school children at the Church of the Mediator, and adults in the New York Public Library's literacy program. In 2002, Frances began working with the Alumnae Association to increase the participation of alumnae of color in Reunion and other college activities. She collaborated with Institutional Advancement staff in launching the Zora Neale Hurston '28 Scholarship Fund. Frances has served the alumnae board as chair of the nominating committee, and as a member of the professional and leadership development

economics at both Johns Hopkins and New York University. She went on to do mortgage-securities research at both Salomon Bros. and Lehman Bros., before moving into the technology side of finance at Lehman. Since 1999, Nicole has come "close to perfecting the work-family balance" by serving as a technology consultant at various financial-services firms. She's also been an active volunteer serving as PTA treasurer at her son's grammar school and treasurer of the board of her Brooklyn co-op. Nicole currently is a member of the Alumnae Association's Alma Maters steering committee since 2005.



YOUNG ALUMNAE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Ashley Kelly '04

Originally from Rio Rancho, N.M., Ashley was a Dean's List graduate and an

English major with a concentration in film. The first person in her family to attend college, Ashley spent spring semester of her junior year at University College in London. She's currently in her second year at Brooklyn Law School where she is a member of the *Journal of Law and Policy* and the executive board of the Student Bar Association. At Barnard, Ashley chaired the McIntosh Activities Council's social committee and served on faculty-alumnae relations and special performances committees, as well as the SGA tri-partite committee on student life. Presently she serves as her class representative on the young alumnae committee of the Alumnae Association.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Three to be elected)

Sabiya Mir Amanat '92

A pediatric dentist in Manhattan, Sabiya

majored in anthropology and, while at Barnard, was active in arts and sports, including varsity track and basketball. She earned her DDS at Columbia University's School of Dental Medicine. In addition to her private practice, she is assistant clinical professor at the School of Dental Medicine and plays an active role in the dental admissions committee. Sabiya has been a member of the Barnard's Science Advisory Council since 2004. She and her husband, Omar, live in New York City.



Pamela Durborow Gallagher '69

Pamela is the development director for the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, a statewide organization. She is the former development director for the Silvermine Guild Arts Center in New Canaan, a historic guild of artists, which includes galleries, a school, and an outreach arts education program. An anthropology major, Pamela served as a class officer and was a founding member of the Barnard Club in Cincinnati, Ohio; she is a past president of the Barnard College Club of Fairfield County, Conn. Pamela has been an active alumnae networker and a member of several Alumnae Association committees. As a BAAR, she has interviewed prospective Barnard students from Fairfield County.



Alison C. Hockenberry '88

A history major, Alison was the first woman to become publisher of the *Columbia Daily Spectator*.

After graduation, she joined ABC News and became an award-winning journalist/producer with a focus on human rights, and women's and family issues. In 1990, Alison received an Emmy Award as a contributor to *Abortion: The New Civil War*, narrated by the late Peter Jennings; her documentary, *Scarred for Life*, dealt with female circumcision and earned her a Peabody Award in 1993, the same year she was honored with an Overseas Press Club Award for a piece about Afghanistan. Alison is developing a new media site. She serves as fund chair for her class, and has been a member of the Reunion, Annual Fund, and Alma Maters committees.



Audrey Appel Sterenfeld '55

As an undergraduate, Audrey majored in chemistry; she went on to get a master's in the subject at Columbia University. She worked as a research assistant in a pharmaceutical lab. Audrey turned to teaching shortly after starting her family and taught for 31 years at Hewlett High School on Long Island. During that time she also served a term on the advanced placement chemistry committee of the College Board. Retired and living in Florida, Audrey is a board member of the Barnard Club of South Florida, and serves on

the advisory board of the Lifelong Learning Society at Florida Atlantic University, which maintains one of the largest programs of continuing education in the country.



Helen C. Weil '44

Experienced in vocational rehabilitation for the physically and developmentally disabled and in grants development

and writing for nonprofit institutions, Helen began her career after receiving her degree in sociology. She then obtained a master's in rehabilitation counseling from Columbia University, as well as an MBA from NYU. She was the director of the vocational rehab program at the Hartmann YMCA in Far Rockaway, N.Y., and the associate director of the Woodard School for the Emotionally Disturbed in Freeport, N.Y. Helen has taught courses in vocational rehabilitation to graduate students at Hofstra University, and has served as an aide to State Senator Carole Berman on physical and mental handicap issues. She resides in Florida, where she is active with the Barnard Club of South Florida.



Darin White '98

Darin majored in economics and political science at Barnard and is a director at the Whitney Group, a global executive search firm

focused on senior-level hires in the financial services industry. Prior to joining Whitney in 2004, she worked at Soros Private Funds Management on acquisitions, currency hedging, and other fund-related activities for the firm's global real estate merchant banking fund. Darin began her career in finance as an acquisitions professional in the merchant bank of DLJ Real Estate Capital Partners. As a volunteer, Darin is an advisory board member for Mt. Sinai's Young Friends, a member of MoMA's Young Friends, and has been actively involved with several Barnard-related committees.

Stay in the Loop with *Barnard Bits & Bytes*, a monthly e-newsletter featuring news and notes about alumnae, campus events, and more.

To receive BB&B visit:
alum.barnard.edu/intouch

Class Notes

27 **Elizabeth Gould Neff** of Newtown, Pa., died on March 26, 2007, one week shy of her 101st birthday. She is survived by one son and two grandchildren.

75th Reunion May 29 – June 1, 2008

33 Janet O'Connell, daughter of **Flor- ence W. Dickens- son O'Connell**, reports that her mother passed away in 2006. Florence, Janet says, was "a humble legend" who loved Barnard, which she attended on full scholarship. Florence dedicated herself to her family and, Janet writes, "although she didn't become famous, she embodied the greatness of Barnard."

70th Reunion May 29 – June 1, 2008

38 The Sept. 19, 2007 *Midland (Michigan) Daily News* published a glowing article about Kenneth Harding, husband of **Audrey Snyder Harding**, in recognition of his 95th birthday in July 2007. The article records his life from his birth in Cornwall, England, through the family move to Michigan and his schooling, his time at Dow Chemical as a chemical engineer, his family life, and his community work in music and photography. The article also highlights Audrey's life, including her graduation from Barnard, her service in the WAVES during World War II, and obtaining her PhD

in psychology at the University of Michigan before settling in Midland and marrying Ken. Together they raised three children that Ken had with his late first wife.

Anne Milman Briscoe '39 writes of the death of Dr. **Doris Milman Kreeger** last October. Anne says that anything she accomplished she owes to the encouragement of Doris, who was truly a credit to Barnard. As the top science student in our class, Doris received the Rice Fellowship. She earned her MD at New York University Medical School, where she was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha, the medical honorary society. She had a distinguished career as a physician despite being paralyzed and confined to a wheelchair from the age of 30. She and her husband, Dr. Nathan Kreeger, raised their daughter, Dr. Elizabeth Goldman, while carrying on medical practices. Doris had a private practice as a pediatrician and specialized in problems of child development. She authored many articles and was professor of pediatrics at Downstate College of Medicine, where she twice served as acting chair of the department. Doris was a recipient of Barnard's Distinguished Alumna Award. She is survived by one daughter, two grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter.

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40 **June Rossbach** **Bingham Birge** died on Aug. 21, 2007, at her home in Riverdale, N.Y. An author, playwright, and medical writer, her works include two biographies and two medical books (written with psychiatrists), as well as numerous plays. After marrying Jonathan Bingham, a Congressman, she moved to Washington, D.C., where she worked as writer-editor for the Treasury Department and later as a part-time editor of the letters department of the *Washington Post*. After moving back to New York, June began writing plays. *Triangles*, which played off Broadway, and became the musical *Young Roosevelts*, was produced in Dallas, Washington, D.C., and New York. *Squanto and Love* was staged in Plymouth, Mass., and New York. Later she wrote *Eleanor and Alice and Asylum: The Strange Case of Mary Lincoln*, both of which were produced in New York.

After nursing her first husband through his final illness and noticing that most terminal patients had no visitors, June founded the Trained Liaison Comforters program at New York-Presbyterian Hospital. In addition to her second husband, June is survived by three children, one stepson, 12 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren. One daughter predeceased her.

Word has also been received of the death of **Jane Mantell Otten** in October. A graduate of the Columbia School of Journalism, she was a writer whose work appeared in many national magazines. Jane was also the coauthor, with **Florence Dubroff Shelley**, of the

book *When Your Parents Grow Old*. Her husband was a bureau chief for the *Wall Street Journal*, which allowed them to live abroad and meet many interesting people. In addition to her husband, Jane is survived by her four children. We send our sympathies to the families.

*Flora Ehksam Dudley
437 Melbourne Avenue
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41 A conversation with **Athena Capraro Warren** explained her silence for part of August and most of September. She had just returned home after a hospital stay and several weeks of rehabilitation to try to correct a severe breathing problem. Happily, she was able to stay in the same nursing home where she volunteered for many years.

Betty Clifford Macomber has been out of touch because of a very busy summer, which began with an extended trip to visit her daughter in Phoenix and continued with visits to Salt Lake City and Montana, including a long-awaited first visit to Yellowstone National Park. Then a number of weekend trips helped her escape the heat of Philadelphia.

Prita Kumarappa Shalizi, in Santa Fe, N.M., was delighted to learn that her college friendship with **Herawati Latip Diah** was remembered in Herawati's book, mentioned in our last issue. On a lovely picture notecard she created Prita writes of her visits in 2004 and 2006 to her native Kabul, Afghanistan, after a 32-year absence. She was encouraged to find "an energetic will to rebuild after years of devastation" and hopes this will overcome "the lack of financial resources and security." In an earlier note she mentioned that her son has tried to introduce new and improved agricultural practices through his own example.

I chatted on the phone with **Beatrice Belis Soltz**. She and her husband, Joe, moved a few years ago to a continuing-care community in Canton, Mass. She reports that they have celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. Unfortunately they haven't traveled in retirement as they had planned, as

Joe has suffered a debilitating illness, but they are very pleased with their new residence. Beatrice mentioned with understandable pride that their daughter, Judith Soltz '68, has just retired from her position as chief general counsel of Cigna.

Helen Ranney has problems walking, but continues to work with scientific matters. She sounds well and busy, with the same sharp sense of humor. I was reminded of the day Helen decided to require everyone who came to the desk in the library to pay for their books with a joke. There was much laughter in Hewitt that night. Helen avoided—by five miles—the emergency evacuations caused by the California wildfires near La Jolla, last October.

We also have received word that **Dr. Ruth (Toby) Taubenhaus Gross** died on Oct. 16, 2007. She is survived by one son, his wife, and two granddaughters, to whom we extend our sympathies.

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42 We received a note from Professor Anne Higonnet, who honored us at our 65th Reunion with a lecture on three of her favorite little-known women artists. She said that she had a wonderful time and enjoyed meeting the class members who attended. Anne also said that the class gift of an umbrella with four great women artists on it (including the then-obscure woman who was the subject of Higonnet's dissertation) was such a perfect demonstration of how our alumnae keep on making history and changing lives.

Jeannette C. Van Walsem writes from the Netherlands that she has been bedridden for almost two years and in and out of the hospital. She's now at

home and can manage with a walker. She couldn't attend reunion but sends her greetings to all.

Lillian Rutherford Roma can no longer drive at night due to macular degeneration—she also has had to cut back on her dance teaching. **Marie Wall Fay** and her husband, Jack, moved from their home in Stuart, Fla., to a retirement home in Vero Beach. She also has macular degeneration but says that it is being successfully treated. She and Jack traveled to the Baltic states, Moscow, and St. Petersburg last year.

An avid reader and gardener, **Eleonora Boggiano** is well, but not as active as she used to be. She keeps in touch with alumnae, including **Mabel Campbell**.

Aurelia Maresca Bender is an active musician and is involved in a local retirement home where she organizes concerts and still plays piano. She misses her regular trips to Italy, but does some travel. Now her pride and joy is Auriell, her 21st grandchild.

Helena Percas-Ponseti keeps healthy by walking. She finished writing a biography of her husband, a world-renowned pioneer in the nonsurgical treatment of infant clubfoot. The author of several books and many papers on Cervantes, Helena says the biography will be her last book.

Louise Woolfolk Chesnut reports that her husband died last April. She's physically fit and keeps busy in her garden. Louise has devoted most of her life to ecology and energy conservation. She's seeing some of the results of her work in Arlington, Va., where the local government is stressing sound ecological measures to conserve energy. We're saddened to share the news of the deaths of two classmates. **Helen Hearn Jones** died on June 6, 2007. She is survived by five children, seven grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. We do not have any more details. **Nancy Chapman Ewell** died on June 23, 2007. Earlier this year that she had moved from her home in Kennebunk, Maine, to an adult community near her daughter.

*Virginia Rogers Cushing
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Pat Condon**Fenichell** sendsreminiscences about
our 20th Reunion: Her
husband, Mel, and Ed Reinert (husband
of **Irene Jones Reinert**) tended bar.She writes, "We had *real* liquor then
and great hors 'd'oeuvres." She and
Barbra Thompson O'Shaughnessy
helped lug the heavy bottles from the
liquor store to the third floor of Barnard
Hall, "huffing and puffing" all the
way. Her letter also included the sad
reminder that her husband had passed
away in April 2005 from an infection
picked up in the hospital after major
surgery.**Mary Vanaman O'Gorman** describes
her life in a Sacramento, Calif., "old
people's" home as most pleasant. It
offers all the help and care she might
need in the future, she says. "Barnard
seems a long time ago, but I certainly
enjoyed my time there," Mary writes.**Carol Hawkes** is working "24/7,"
as she puts it, so that her venture as
dean of the Western Connecticut
State University's School of Visual
and Performing Arts will be properly
launched.The July 19, 2007 *New York Law
Journal* reports a dispute between**Dorothea Weitzner** and the board of
her co-op apartment in Trump Plaza. I
hope she'll let us know how it all turns
out.Lastly, I have been asked by classmates
to say a few words about **Eda Bratschi
Galli**, who passed away earlier this
year. During a memorial service she was
lauded by her children as a wonderful,
quiet, reserved, unselfish mother who
loved her family, the theatre, books, and
volunteering to help those in need.*Elfriede Thiele Kelso*

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44Our column returns
to its accustomed
place in Class Notes.
Its absence was due

to the unexpected death of my sister,

Eunice Claire Messler '52, but also to
the information I had not received from
my readers, hear, hear! There is much to
pass on to you in this column, much of it
drawing upon earlier times.From the Terre Haute, Ind., Carmelite
Monastery comes the announcement
of the death of **Charlotte McKenzie**,
known for over 60 years as Sr. Joseph
of Jesus Mary. One of the founding
sisters of the monastery after she
served with the WAVES, she ultimately
became prioress of the monastery
and coordinator in the 1990s of the
Saint Teresa Association of Carmelite
Monasteries in the United States.
Classmates visited her over the years
and received copies of many poems
she wrote. She maintained her sense
of humor and built steadily upon the
leadership and friendship qualities she
exhibited at Barnard.**Idris Rossell**, who kept in close
touch with Charlotte, points out that
at Barnard Charlotte was president of
both our first-year and senior class.
She was a "friend of everyone." Upon
her retirement from active duty at the
monastery Charlotte's fellow sisters
presented her with a golf cart to
facilitate travel around the campus.
Word has it that they were forced to
curtail her use of it when her excessive
speed caused great concern and minor
mishaps. She was the embodiment of
"the flying nun."**Alice Halpert Aronson** passed away
on June 9, 2007. A psychology major
with "an artistic flair," she combined
aspects of both fields in her 20 years
as an illustrator of a daily newspaper
column, "A Lovelier You." In her second
career she volunteered for 26 years
as a horticultural therapist at the Rusk
Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine
in New York. Alice was interested in
politics, current events, and cultural
activities. We extend our sympathy to
her son and two daughters.From the Vermont retirement community
overlooking Lake Champlain where
she's lived for 14 years, **Ruth Barrett**
sends words of contentment. Although
a city-dweller and a world-traveler
before retirement, she writes, "I have
become a true country-dweller with
leaves, flowers, birds, chipmunks in
focus, growing with the community from
mud to a thriving hub of activity. I havebecome so engrossed in the goings-on
that I find it difficult to go elsewhere."Three classmates who remain in their
longtime homes are **Ina Campbell**,
Françoise Kelz, and **Renée
Lamouree**.They spent a weekend
at Renée's in September. "Between
chats," writes Ina, "[we] enjoyed a
regional theatre performance and an
outdoor concert on church grounds."**Louise Russell Irving** moved from
Unionville, Pa., to Princeton, N.J., to be
near family members. She recalls with
pleasure attending our 60th Reunion
where she met President Shapiro and
enjoyed the programs. Her plans for
2009 include being at our next reunion.**Irma Schocken Wachtel** died on
June 16, 2007, and **Helen McConville****Screder** died two days later. Irma
worked within the business and
management worlds and kept up with
modern computer technology. Helen
devoted her life to teaching. Each is
survived by two daughters to whom the
class expresses its sympathy.*Martha Messler Zepp*
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martha.zepp@verizon.net**45**The SOS e-mail I sent
brought some fresh
interesting news.**Marjorie Raphael****Wysong**, SSM—writing after the
devastating Tropical Storm Noel, which
hit Haiti in late October—describes
the loss of life and crops and the
destruction of property. Marjorie is an
Episcopal sister in charge of a facility
in turbulent Port-au-Prince catering
to elderly indigent women. She's
encouraged by a recent improvement
they made to their home, Foyer Notre
Dame. A 200-ft. deep well has been
dug to supply residents with sufficient
water and filtered water for drinking,
a boon for an area with limited clean
water and electricity. We salute Marjorie
for her difficult role in helping others.**Jane Brunstetter Forsthoff**announces with pride the birth of
a great-granddaughter, Sarah Jane
Hoverman. Her grandmother is Jane's
daughter, Janet Huseby '72. Already

Jane has figured out Sarah will be ready to carry on the family tradition in Barnard's class of 2028.

Last spring I caught up with Jane in Naples, Fla. She's so young and vital, looking almost the same as the day we graduated. Jane and her husband devote many hours to Habitat for Humanity and to the Red Cross for disaster relief. She has been very helpful to me in checking out a condo I'll rent there in March.

Dawn Shaw Wilson is also making a difference. When New Orleans was still struggling to recover she helped teach art to the children. Now she's recognized in her own milieu. On Nov. 4, 2007, the Cincinnati Episcopal Cathedral Gallery opened an exhibit of her recent paintings. Dawn enjoys reading with her neighbor **Mary (Molly) Wilby Whittaker**. What a lead-in to a new section I want to add to this column. There's an interest in book clubs among retirees, so I'm launching this section of our column. Books recommended by classmates will be listed as they are reported to me. Our inaugural recommendations include *The Inheritance of Loss* by Kiran Desai recommended by Jane Brunstetter Forsthoff; *Water for Elephants* by Saren Gruen recommended by Dawn Shaw Wilson; *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson recommended by Dawn and Molly Whitaker; and *Death of an Englishman* by Magdalena Nabb recommended by Dawn.

Sadly I report the death of **Madeline Kessler Ramsey** who was associated with a research company during her career. She is survived by her daughters Sheila Ramsey '81, Rita Langva, and Maya Ramsey '74. *Mortarboard* reveals she was a transfer student from the College of William & Mary, with a major in international studies. She also was personnel director and station manager of Columbia University Radio Club (and the "roar of the lion") which broadcasted nightly to Barnard and the Navy.

*Annette Auld Kaicher
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46 Alvin Donald Clark, husband of **Helen Doherty Clark**, passed away on Oct. 2, 2007. They were married for 60 years. We send Helen our sincere condolences.

*Edna Choi Law
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47 **Mary Seymour Paige** passed away on July 8, 2007, in Charlotte, N.C. She is survived by Sidney, her husband of 57 years, five children, and 10 grandchildren. Raised in Tenafly, N.J., Mary graduated from Barnard with a degree in music. She married in 1950, after which her family lived in Pittsburgh and Allentown, Pa., and later Lake Forest, Ill. After her retirement in the early 1990s, she and her husband moved to Hilton Head Island and then to Charlotte. Besides devoting her life to her family, she was an active member of the Episcopal Church and a volunteer in several civic organizations including the Junior League, Travelers Aid, and the Community Institute of Lake Forest.

Marcia Balfour Haupt passed away in Elkland, Mo., on July 12, 2007. She is survived by her husband, two daughters, one son, and five grandchildren. At Barnard, Marcia majored in zoology; in 1950 she received a master's degree at Columbia University's School of Social Work. A year later, she and Robert Haupt, an architect, were married and moved to the Cincinnati area where he joined an architectural firm. Prior to this she worked as a medical social worker. After marrying and having a family, she became an active leader and volunteer: the leader of a Girl Scout troop, the founder of a parents' cooperative kindergarten, member for nine years and vice president of the Mount Airy Board of Education, and active member of a local garden club. In 2004, she and her husband moved to Elkland to be close to their older daughter and her family.

Virginia Kanick reports on the latest

of her worldwide travels—a symposium on global warming sponsored by Columbia University, among other institutions. It was held aboard a polar ice-breaker that traveled to the Arctic Ocean north of far eastern Siberia. Virginia says that her lifelong travel adventures started in 1950 when she was still a medical student at Columbia's College of Physicians & Surgeons. Since then, she has traveled to such exotic places as Afghanistan, Brazil, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Laos, Libya, Peru, Tibet, Vietnam, Yemen, and every country in Europe except Bulgaria.

Virginia says that Barnard's emphasis on educational diversity, mandating a study of the humanities even for a physics/math major, has held her in good stead. An interest in archaeology, ancient and modern history, and architecture were the focus for many of these trips. Several of these recent trips especially those to Europe, have involved the rental of a villa, apartment, or house. If you're interested in renting a lovely, inexpensive, historic villa in the Veneto, about an hour's drive from Venice, just let her know.

Rita Girolamo Leone died in Franklin Lakes, N.J., on Sept. 8, 2007. After graduation, Rita received her medical degree from New York Medical College in 1951 and a master of medical science in radiology in 1955. She ultimately became a professor and vice chairman of the department of radiology, director of nuclear medicine, and associate dean of student affairs at New York Medical College. She received the college's Distinguished Service Medal in 1987. Survivors include her husband, Armand, two sons, and seven grandchildren.

—JAS

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Your immediate action is needed. **Jean Matters Burn** is producing the keepsake

booklet for our 60th Reunion. Please submit pictures and/or statements ASAP to Jean Matters Burn, 11883 Barrel Cooper Court, Reston, VA 20191. If possible, send via e-mail to emailgma@aol.com. The deadline is March 15.

In November you received a letter from **Nora Robell**, our dedicated class president, and by the time you read this magazine you will have received a letter or phone call from a classmate urging you to attend. Make plans now. Sixty is a big milestone. Help us celebrate by making a generous contribution to The Barnard Fund, if you haven't already done so. Our class participation percentage counts.

In addition to those listed in the Fall 2007 issue, we send thanks to these classmates who have volunteered to be '48/60th Reunion networkers: **Nancy Ross Auster, Lois Williams Emma, Ruth Hill Jones, Jean Dunn Silver, Joan Jacks Silverman, Carol Hoffman Stix, Betty Zlotsky Tovian, and Isabel Riso Wright**. When we talked to Nancy, she was just back from a four-mile walk. Ruth will be writing to us from New Mexico.

Joan had an exciting year, attending the California opening of *The Simpsons Movie*, directed by her son, David. Joan was honored at a reception by the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., celebrating her 45 years of service as a docent. Her Barnard degree in fine arts was cited; she also earned a master's degree from the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University. Among her special achievements at the museum was a tour of German art that she designed. To top off the year, Joan had a blockbuster 80th birthday party, bringing family and friends from far and near. Betty keeps busy singing in several choral groups in the Hartford, Conn., area and enjoys auditing classes at St. Joseph College, a short stroll from her retirement community. We caught up with Lois at our November mini-reunion, where she arranged for us to meet in the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Trustees Dining Room—it made us

feel special while we hatched reunion plans. Isabel has settled in Georgia and had recently returned from a California visit to family.

Thanks also to **Helen Allen Archibald** for volunteering as a '48/60th networker. She had the pleasure of speaking to **Eileen Gilmore Serocke** of Laguna Woods, Calif., just before Eileen passed away in November 2007. Two of Eileen's four children lived close to her with their families. Another son lives in Missouri, and a daughter lives in Pennsylvania. Eileen also has 10 grandchildren. A year ago her family hosted a major celebration for her 80th birthday. We send our condolences to them.

We were happy to get news from **Louise Shaw**, who has retired from her post as director of maternity services for Catholic Charities. She lives in Westchester, N.Y., and hopes to attend reunion. Jean Matters Burn, recently widowed, has moved back to the Washington, D.C., area from New Jersey. She has started a nonprofit organization, Peace Through Puppets, to support her son, Bruce L. Reges, now serving in Iraq, enabling him to distribute puppets to Iraqi children. Before retiring, Jean worked with the learning-disabled. Jean has volunteered to oversee our reunion class booklet project. Many thanks to Jean.

Close readers of book reviews may have noted that *Making War to Keep Peace* by **Jeane Jordan Kirkpatrick** was published posthumously by HarperCollins in 2007. It may come as a surprise that she didn't support the Iraq war and didn't think that the United States should attempt to spread democracy by force.

The ever-energetic **Lawrie Trevor Nommer** regretfully reports that she clocked "only 160 miles" on her most recent biking/camping trip in the southwest, the reason being too much wind. Her normal at-home regimen includes 30 miles a day on her stationary bike, a two-mile walk, and 20 laps in a pool. Lawrie will be striding in to reunion bringing one or both of her daughters. She and Nancy Auster can set the pace—and the rest of us will try to keep up.

We have learned of the deaths of two classmates. **Majorie Greenwald Jacobson** died on Jan. 12, 2007. A transfer student, she majored in sociol-

ogy. **Betty Lou Kirtley Kasnoff** died on March 27, 2007. She had worked as a travel agent in northern California. She is survived by her husband, Walter, and one son. We extend our sympathy to their families and friends.

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Our president, **Ruth Muscant Feder**, informs me that she learned from **Patricia Cecere Doumas** that Pat's husband is

being treated at Yale by a notable pulmonary physician named Dr. Rochester. Dr. Carolyn Rochester Ramsey is the daughter of **Lois Boochever Rochester** and Dr. Dudley F. Rochester. Carolyn and her husband have a son and a daughter. Subsequently I telephoned Lois and was so sorry to hear that her other daughter, Gwendolyn, died of breast cancer about two years ago. Gwendolyn's husband and two daughters survive her.

Martha Howe Gogel lives in Weston, Mass. She writes that she has traveled all over the world and is now enjoying having her daughters be her chauffeur and chef. One daughter has a passion for mountain climbing and jazz music. The other is aspiring to be part of creating a sustainable planet and has a Web site, theidealdream.com. Martha works out at the gym daily and attends her local library's concerts. The Barnard Club of Connecticut sent a \$150 gift to The Barnard Fund in memory of **Lois Soons Porro**. Lois, who died in 2006, was a former president of the club. A memorial service attended by several alumnae was held shortly thereafter. The club remembers Lois as an avid environmentalist involved in many local and civic activities.

—YDD

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Mary Carroll Nelson

writes from Albuquerque, N.M., that the Society of Layerists

in Multi-Media, which she founded, celebrated its 25th anniversary. The society has grown from five members to more than 400, and as it's "in very healthy condition," she plans to fade back a bit from its activities. Her book, *Crop Circles: An Art of Our Time* was published by Fresco Fine Art Publications last July. Mary and her husband, Ed, celebrated their 57th anniversary this year. They enjoy travel and visits with family around the United States and in Canada.

"It's been a long wait," says **Isabel Berkery Mount**, on becoming a first-time grandmother. "I suspect that we have classmates working on still the next generation: great-grandchildren." Julian Emerson Mount was born on June 18, 2007, to Isabel's son, Christopher, and his wife. "[Julian] seems to have learned (a prodigy no doubt) that smiles bring welcome sounds of delight from others, so he has a big ear-to-ear smile as an almost permanent fixture. He has turned my son into a bowl of jelly and grandma is pretty happy, too."

Regretfully, we report the deaths of two classmates. **Phyllis Maloy Hobe** died last July in Pennsburg, Pa. An obituary in the *Morning Call* noted that Phyllis "began her career at a public relations firm, then became a reporter for the *Wilmington Star* and the *Wilmington News*. Later, she worked her way up from copy editor to editor-in-chief at Fleming H. Revell, a small publishing company in New Jersey. She was the author of several books, most notably *When Love Isn't Easy*, *Lovebound*, and *Living Boldly*. She is survived by "her loving pets and friends."

Beverly Beck Fuchs, our senior class president, died on Oct. 17, 2007, in Stanford, Calif., of a rare form of carcinosarcoma. In 1948 Beverly married Victor Fuchs, who went on to teach at Stanford University. While raising four children in Roslyn, N.Y., Beverly organized programs to educate and empower populations with special needs, such as juvenile prisoners on Riker's Island, and women returning to the labor force. In 1975, she earned a master's

degree in urban studies from Queens College. After moving to Stanford, she became founding director of group services at the Palo Alto Senior Center. Later she lectured on and consulted about both public speaking and retirement, coached support staff at Stanford in English and cultural competence, and was active in Palo Alto's Keddem Congregation, and in book groups. In 2002, she was trained as a mediator with the Palo Alto Mediation Program; she successfully mediated dozens of cases in the last five years. Beverly was also an avid hiker and nature photographer. She is survived by her children, nine grandchildren, and by her husband, who provided this information about her life. He writes, "In her lectures, she advised hundreds of listeners to continue to seek out new challenges to learn, to love, and to grow. This was the key to a full and flourishing life at any age. For 78 years, Beverly lived her own advice."

—NNJ

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Congratulations to **Flora Mastroberardino Coyne** and her husband, Jim, on their 50th wedding anniversary. Flora writes that they brought the past into the present by renewing their wedding vows. Guests included four children, eight grandchildren, family members, and friends who came from all parts of the country to help make the day enjoyable and memorable for all.

Aida DiPace Donald says her book, *Lion in the White House: A Life of Theodore Roosevelt*, has been published by Basic Books. She's busy in civic affairs in her summer hometown of Wellfleet, Mass., where she's founder and president of the 600-member, six-year-old Wellfleet Non-Resident Taxpayers Association.

Joan Breon Foth, a fine-arts major who learned to appreciate rocks through her required geology course, describes herself as a retired artist. After graduation she worked at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, married, spent 30 years living in the Midwest, and then moved to New Mexico. Joan says she enjoys reading, classical music, and looking at New Mexico's wonderful rocks. She has had large watercolor landscapes exhibited in Santa Fe. Joan sent us her biography for the Class of '52 Archive Project. Please follow Joan's example and send your biographies and addenda to Donald Glassman at the Barnard College Archives.

Miriam Shapiro Grosoff travels and teaches courses she created at Yeshiva University.

Priscilla Allen summers on Cape Cod and, although retired from the active ministry, writes that she sometimes officiates at her home parish in St. Louis.

Sarah Max Isaacs writes from Israel that in 2006 her husband, Philip K. Isaacs, died suddenly. Their three children, 16 grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren have been a vast support group, as have her friends and neighbors, her volunteer work at the Israel Museum, study groups, and vigorous walking. She writes that she's acquiring lots of new skills. The class extends its sympathy to Sarah.

Adrienne Hytier died on April 18, 2007. She received her PhD in history from Columbia University and lived as the consummate scholar. After 38 years, she retired as professor of French at Vassar College. Adrienne also taught at U.C. Davis and Columbia. Born in Iran and educated in Algeria and Paris before Barnard, her specialty was 18th-century literature. She also wrote on warfare, the Vichy regime, and, according to the *New York Times*, created a "dazzling" garden in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Eunice Messler died on Aug. 6, 2007, after pulmonary surgery. She devoted over 40 years to nursing education with an emphasis on maternal care and graduate nursing education. She earned a master of science at Case-Western Reserve University and a master of science and a doctor of philosophy from Columbia University. She held professorships and directed nursing programs in colleges and universities

in six states, retiring in 1997 as director of nursing at Westbrook College in Portland, Maine, where she expanded the nursing program from a two- to a four-year course of study. In retirement she moved south to a warmer clime for herself and her two dogs. In Staunton, Va., Eunice participated in a variety of community activities. She is survived by her sister, Martha Messler Zepp '44, nieces, nephews, and friends.

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55th Reunion May 29 – June 1, 2008

53 Joan Jacobs Conn writes that she enjoys many outdoor activities and devotes what free time remains to dance and theatre events in New York City.
Our condolences to **Natalie Marx Appel** on the death of her husband, Larry, last October.

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54 Ellen Lee Mangino and her husband, Michael (CC '51), have four children. Their daughter Eileen and her husband homeschooled their children, one of whom just entered Dartmouth on scholarship. Their son Michael is a professor of psychiatric nursing, and their son Bill is a professor of sociology. When **Lenore Self Katkin**, who also has four children, made a fund-raising call to Ellen, they compared notes. Ellen's daughter Patricia, who works in the kitchen design business, lives in Newbury, Mass., as does Lenore's daughter, Paula. On the remote chance

they might know each other Ellen mentioned Paula's name to Patricia. Patricia had designed Paula's kitchen and was now doing her new bathroom. "Six degrees of separation? Not even," writes Ellen.

Freda Rosenthal Eiberson, Audrey Scheinblum Kosman, Herberta

Benjamin Schacher, Lenore, and I had lunch a few months ago. Freda was honored at Temple Israel of Long Beach in July for her years of work for the temple and Hadassah. She's taking bible study classes.

Doris Barker Shiller, retired now, has become a literary volunteer who helps people pass the GED.

Did you notice **Patricia Hazeltine**

Duhnrack rolling the Greek Games hoop on a recent Barnard postcard? My husband and I went to Italy for 11 days last October and had a wonderful time. We visited the Pantheon to find a choral group singing; it was outdone by a wedding that followed (with more spectators than guests). We walked into a mesmerizing Peruvian-Catholic procession full of great pomp and pageantry. We encountered a formidable demonstration against the government at a major ruin. In Rome on Oct. 16, we wandered into a church and discovered a commemoration of the anniversary of the Nazi deportation of the Jews of Rome in 1943. From there began a candlelight march, which we joined, to a square in the Jewish quarter where there were more ceremonies. When we visited the ghetto in Venice we saw a plaque with the names of deported Jews, including a Rabbi Adolfo and Alessandra Ottolenghi. Upon my return to the States I called **Elena Ottolenghi Nightingale** and found

that these were cousins of hers, as was the Chief Rabbi Emeritus of Rome (the only rabbi ever to meet a pope). We had just seen him at the Rome commemoration mentioned above. Elena, in retirement, is a scholar-in-residence at the National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine, where she works on health policy for children, youths, and families. She also works with Human Rights Watch in the New York office.

We're saddened to report the death of **Erica Levy**. Our condolences to her companion, Paul, and her three children.

We also report that **Patricia Ellsworth Wilson** died on Dec. 14, 2007, from complications of a chronic illness she'd had since childhood. Pat spent her last years in Holland, Mich., with her husband, Larry, who predeceased her by several months.

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Last May, Columbia's Low Memorial Library was the site for the Columbia/Barnard Hillel Seventh Annual Seixas Award Dinner honoring Ruth E. Horowitz '83 and Richard E. Kobrin (CC '62), co-chaired by Ruth's parents, Gedale (CC '53) and **Barbara Silver Horowitz**, and by Lawrence A. Kobrin (CC '57). Ruth and Richard, were co-presidents of Columbia/Barnard Hillel and were honored with the Gershom Mendes Seixas Award for their years of dedicated service to Hillel. Congratulations to Barbara and Ruth on their work with the Kraft Center for Jewish Student Life.

During a recent trip to Chicago, my husband and I joined **Sylvia Hurwitz**

Peters and her husband, Dr. Irwin Peters, for dinner at the Drake Hotel and a walk along the 28-mile white-sand beach and bicycle path on the north shore of Lake Michigan. I didn't expect to find a non-retired classmate working full time. Sylvia writes grants for an organization that provides social services for 30,000 seniors residing in the northern suburbs of Chicago. Her husband, Irwin, a retired professor at DePaul University operates a company that manufactures motor oil and industrial lubricants. They live in Glencoe, Ill. Their two children, both married, are the parents of six children ages 7 to 15. Their son is an attorney in Chicago and their daughter is first violinist with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

A record turnout of classmates met at The Atlantic Grill in New York for a mini-reunion. Attending were **Tamara Rippner Casriel, Gisela von Scheven Fort, Barbara Kahn**

**Gaba, Jane Were-Bey Gardner,
Carol Salomon Gold, Doris Joyner
Griffin, Barbara Brody Heyman,
Gayle Abouchar Jaeger, Joyce
Lebois Johnson, Norma Haft
Mandel, Florence Federman
Mann, Marion Toman Marchal,
Duane Lloyd Patterson, Marcella
Jung Rosen, Carol Held Scharff,
Ellen Blumenthal Sehgal, Mirella
d'Ambrosio Servodidio, Toni
Lautman Simon, Hessy Levinsons
Taft, Joyce Shimkin Usiskin, and
Diana Touliatou Vagelos.**

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the publication of Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*, **Joyce Glassman Johnson**, a friend of Kerouac, wrote an enlightening article for *Smithsonian Magazine* last September. Copies are available on the Smithsonian Web site and include a color photo of Joyce and Kerouac. Part autobiographical and part socio-philosophic, Joyce brings us back to the underlying forces that influenced our growth into young women in the mid-20th century. She writes: "The pundits of my time called people my age the Silent Generation, a designation most of us more or less accepted in what was thought to be our characteristically lethargic manner. We were the children of parents who had lived through the dislocating upheavals of the first half of the 20th century, yet many of our mothers and fathers, especially those born into immigrant families, had essentially been formed by 19th-century upbringings. Their own experience—two world wars, a devastating economic depression, the cold war with its public persecutions of those who were deemed un-American and its threat of nuclear annihilation—had made them fearful conservatives of the postwar status quo . . ." She then takes on the task of explaining the origin of the so-called "Beat Generation." So, transport yourself back in time by reading Joyce's short memoir. You won't regret the trip down memory lane.

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56 **Carmen del Pilar Lancellotti** writes that she and her husband, Bill, had a lovely 50th anniversary celebration in one of the original buildings at Colonial Williamsburg. Relatives from several generations shared in the event. Persistent travelers, Carmen and Bill have only to visit Alaska and Hawaii to have visited all the states.

Another recent 50th anniversary celebration was that of **Diana Cohen Blumenthal** and her husband, **Sarah Barr Snook** writes that it was "strange but sort of fun" to see pictures of herself taken at their wedding, at which she was a bridesmaid.

Renée Steisel Saperstein and her husband, Bill, celebrated the same big anniversary last March.

As half of a marriage that lasted only six years and two days, I'm awestruck by how many long-lasting unions our class boasts.

Barbara Florio Graham writes in her customary upbeat tone that she's as professionally occupied as ever, both with her own writing and as a mentor to other Canadian authors. One thing she writes about "old work" gave me a real kick, and I wonder if others have had a similar experience. An article of hers published in *McCall's* in 1982 is "all over the Web," Barbara writes, on sites in 28 countries. She was even paid for its reprinting in an anthology, *Funnybone Fitness* from Guideposts. The article was called "The Real Difference Between the Fatties and the Thinnies," but *McCall's* used a different title: "Thin People Don't." I think it's popular, Barbara writes, because "it's . . . real, not exaggerated, and speaks to every person who hasn't been able to 'save half a box of Good & Plenty for later.'" Change that to "70 percent of a chocolate bar" and I'm there. About her piece, Barbara adds, "It's also clean humor—hard to come by these days. That's why it was selected by Guideposts."

An article came into Barnard hands reporting that **Irma Kurtz** also continues to write and publish.

Sadly, two classmates died recently. **Judith Yedlin Deylin** died on June 17, 2007, and **Ann Stofer Johnson** died on July 25, 2007. We send our condo-

lences to their families. I have a question to which I'll print your responses. Have you ever reread a book that you'd remembered as good, and been totally wowed upon reading it? I just reread *Howard's End*, and it's better than good, maybe even great.

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57 We received a number of long, interesting notes but, apologies to the writers, I had to shorten them for space reasons.

Elsbeth Macpherson Zaayenga writes: "This summer I had one of the most thrilling experiences of my life, and it was shared with my eldest granddaughter. Kim graduated from high school in June and is now a first-year at Penn State. I wanted to share something with her for her graduation that she would never forget. We decided to make our first skydiving jump. We actually jumped from an airplane! It was thrilling, exciting, exhilarating, breathtaking. I'm ready to go again anytime. It was the thrill of a lifetime and I would recommend it to any septuagenarian who is adventurous and in reasonably good health. I can assure you, whenever I casually tell people what I did, (which I frequently do) my story stops conversations. Now I have to work on an equally outrageous gift for my next granddaughter who graduates next June—bungee jumping, white water rafting (done that), dog sledding, a tattoo?"

Does being married for 50 years sound tame in comparison? Many classmates have achieved that milestone, and I'm sure that those who did will tell you it's not at all tame to make a go of it for so long. **Norma Feinberg Appel** writes that she and her husband, Don, celebrated their 50th anniversary with a party given by their children, Karen and Chuck Kaplan and Caren and Larry Appel, in Atlanta, Ga. Norma and Don, who have five grandchildren, are still involved in their business, Plato's Closet, in Kennesaw and Roswell, Ga. **Deborah Riback Zwang** has em-

barked on a new career. She says, "After a long hiatus, I am working again, part-time at Resource Enterprises, a division of Easter Seals of Greater Hartford, where I do case management. I'm getting to use the master's of social work I acquired in 2002, and Easter Seals is getting double credit for employing a senior citizen who also is handicapped—I use a walker. It's fun reversing the clock."

Yvonne Kraft Abhyankar writes, "We'll make our annual winter trip to India. The plan is to stop in New York City to see our daughter and her family and take the nonstop flight to Mumbai. We'll be going to Mumbai, Bangalore, and Pune this time, coming back in time for Rami to teach again second semester. We were in California to see our son and his family. As Rami knows mathematicians all over the world, we have traveled a lot."

The New York-based reunion committee got together for brunch in October and many of the same folks attended the Reunion Courtyard dedication two weeks later. The reception honored alumnae classes for their exceptional giving. In case you haven't heard, our class had the greatest class participation rate of any reunion class with a contribution of more than \$400,000 to the College. The effort was spearheaded by **Rhoda Mermelstein Berley**, with help from **Esther (Elissa) Cohen Damesek** and others. Rhoda, Elissa, **Millicent Alter, Barbara Shonwald Brookes, Ruth Chester, Dorothea Eidenberg Ellern, Louise Greene Klaber, Laura Rosenbaum Randall**, and **Sue Rosenthal Shimer** attended the party and the unveiling of a plaque in the Reunion Courtyard. Those at the brunch included most of the above plus **Susan Green Adelman, Gaya Feinerman Brodnitz, Martha Harris Moskowitz, Phyllis Raphael, Barbara Salant, and Carol Podell Vinson**. On a sad note, we've lost two members, Melissa Phillips reports that her mother, **Sharon Greer Phillips** died on Feb. 27, 2007. **Charlotte Boyer Parkinson** died on Sept. 25, 2007. An obituary in the Oct. 7, 2007, *New York Times* described Charlotte's social-work career and her service on many boards and committees.

Our condolences to both families.

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50th Reunion May 29 – June 1, 2008

58 Class officers and other volunteers are busy planning for our 50th Reunion. Several classmates will host cocktail parties at their homes in Manhattan on Thursday. Our class dinner will be on Friday, and **Judith Smith Kaye**, Chief Justice of the New York State Court of Appeals, will be the featured speaker. For your entertainment, a musical skit is being prepared by **Annette Raymond Smith** and yours truly. President Shapiro will join us at the festivities that night. A 50th Reunion is one of those special occasions, not only to see how *alma mater* has changed and grown, but to reconnect with other alumnae. **Janet Burroway** is in charge of our reunion booklet, which will feature your thoughts, memories, and pictures. Updates on reunion plans, including the names of those who will attend, will be available through our class newsletter. Classmates wishing to be in touch with us before reunion should contact the class presidents, **Doris Platzker Friedensohn** and **Carol Schott Sterling**. Other preliminary activities are underway. No doubt many of us have already been cordially contacted by class volunteers, exhorting us to make generous contributions to commemorate our special anniversary. Regional mini-reunions are part of the plans. One was held at the home of **Helene Lerner Lecar** in Berkeley, Calif. In attendance were **Charline Palmtag, Doreen Zinn Rothman**, Carol Sterling, and **Brenda Schwabacher Webster**. Carol says it was a "lovely afternoon of catching up." **Paula Simon Alan** has been working very hard to organize other mini-reunions around the country. If you live near other classmates and you'd like to host a get-together, contact Paula at paulaalan@suddenlink.net.

In February 2007, Paula and her husband moved from San Diego to Hot Springs Village, Ark., to be closer to their children. They live on a lakefront property situated in a national forest. Paula wrote in October, "My thoughts are consumed by the California fires. Vista, the town we lived in, has not been evacuated, but in Rancho Bernardo, where I taught for 17 years, over 60 homes burned to the ground. Some of my friends don't even know if they have a place to go back to."

The New York metropolitan-area book club continues to meet. At its fourth meeting members discussed *Will in the World* by Stephen Greenblatt. Anyone wishing more information about the schedule and the booklist should contact **Mary Rodgers Van Orman** at pvanorman@msn.com.

Ellen Weintrob Schor writes from Virginia, "Keeping busy here with book clubs and study groups. I just hosted a study group for Brandeis University Women's National Committee Conference. Cynthia Groomes Katz '84, an attorney, spoke on the issue of immigration. After Barnard, she went to Duke Law School. Everyone was very impressed."

Project Continuum, which addresses the needs of alumnae over 50 who are in transition, has been so successful in the New York area that it has spread to other metropolitan areas. In the fall, **Mary Ann Pollack Dubner** led a six-week support group in Washington, D.C., with women who were at transition points in their lives. Mary Ann retired last year from her private practice in psychotherapy and is now more engaged in community consultation. She continues as faculty in the National Group Psychotherapy Institute at the Washington School of Psychiatry. The *New Yorker's* "Talk of the Town" featured a column on a ceremony at the New York County courthouse in September. The occasion was the launch of a new postage stamp in honor of jury duty. Many notable celebrities were mentioned, along with the Hon. Judith Smith Kaye, the driving force behind a change in New York law that abolished nearly all job-related exemptions from jury duty. Our own "Judge Judy" was also praised in a lengthy piece by Steven C. Krane in the *Albany Law Review*.

Krane, her former law clerk, decried the New York law that will require her departure this year from the bench, declaring that "mandatory retirement [after age 70] will force a premature end to a brilliant judicial career."

—MSD

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59 Louise Heublen McCagg's sculpture exhibit at the A.I.R. Gallery in New York was a stunner. **Judith Ann Schiff**, chief research archivist at Yale University Library, was at the opening reception. **Roz Snyder Paaswell** works for National Development Council, a nonprofit focused on community development and finance for affordable housing and historic preservation. Roz is on the boards of many not-for-profit groups. **Karen Swenson** loves teaching modern British and American poetry at Barnard. She just published a new book of poems, *A Pilgrim into Silence*. It includes sections on the time she worked at Mother Teresa's Home for the Destitute and Dying, a hospice for the beggars of Calcutta, India, and her trips to Tibet. **Lillian Wishnia Rand** is a part-time psychiatric social worker in a continuing day-treatment facility. Still a competing amateur pianist, she performed at the Boston International Competition for Outstanding Amateurs in June 2007. Writing from Cambridge, Mass., **Daphne Abeel** reports that she edited *A City's Life and Times: Cambridge in the Twentieth Century*. The book incorporates 20 essays on this diverse community. **Evelyn Farber Karet** PhD is retired from teaching Italian Renaissance art history at Clark University in Worcester, Mass., but continues as a research fellow in the department of visual and performing arts there. She's studying the early (c. 1450) northern Italian draw-

ings and their collectors prior to Giorgio Vasari.

A lawyer in estate planning, **Judith Daynard Boies** is counsel to the firm Boies, Schiller & Flexner, LLP, and is semi-retired. She served as a member and chair of the Fellowship Committee of the Barnard Alumnae Association for four years. For the past few years, she has been involved with developing the Financial Fluency programs.

Betsy Wolf Stephens is retired and spends lots of time with family. She travels, reads, and volunteers for her favorite causes, which include fighting political corruption, protecting the environment, reducing the national debt, and ending the war in Iraq.

Barbara Carson Mayer went back to school in 1994 for her master's degree in decorative arts history at Bard Graduate Center, and was thereupon hired as a historical consultant/archivist at Benjamin Moore Paint Co. She has taught the history of design, interior and industrial, at Pratt Institute. She does freelance editing and writing and loves to walk, bird-watch, garden, and listen to classical music in northern Westchester.

Audrey Gold, a retired teacher, has moved to Huntington, N.Y. In addition to running an antique store in Northport, she's busy with her four grandchildren.

Mary Jane Goodloe, who is retired and enjoying the rich musical life in Brattleboro, Vt., studies and teaches *jin shin jyutsu*, a physio-philosophy from Japan that harmonizes and balances energy pathways in the body.

Bernice Kramer Leader is celebrating 20 years as a corporate and health-care art consultant. Although she and her husband, Alan, love the peace of their home in Wayne, N.J., they have a Manhattan apartment so they can go to museums, galleries, ballet, and the theatre.

Suzanne Weber Ross uses her PhD in clinical psychology from Teachers College for political activism. After many years of opposing U.S. military involvement in Vietnam, Central America, Southern Africa, Afghanistan, and now Iraq, she's involved in racial justice issues in the United States, including the struggle for the freedom of Pennsylvania death-row prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Rita Ashmann Eagle, who has a PhD

in clinical psychology, has written two recently published books, *Sniffy the Beagle* and *Help Him Make You Smile: The Development of Intersubjectivity in the Atypical Child*.

Gaile Noble, now a Canadian citizen living in Kamloops, B.C., is retired from her work with First Nation rural communities. She finds the democratic socialist tradition there stronger than in the United States. She received her master's in developmental sociology from Cornell and a master of social work from the University of Washington in Seattle.

Sadly, we report the death of **Tove Andersen Solomon** in June 2007 after a long illness.

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60 I was in Cambridge, England, last June to be with my daughter, Hannah, after the birth of her first child/daughter, Orly Susannah. One morning, we joined about half of Cambridge to watch two houses being moved for new construction at the Harvard Law School. I was looking past the folks in front of me until I realized that one of them was **Irene Winter**. She couldn't make lunch at **Berl Mendelson Hartman's** (ask her for her pea soup with mint recipe) but **Martha Tolpin** was there, keeping us in stitches with her gift for mimicry. Martha and I know each other from junior high school, believe it or not.

Judy Barbarasch Berkun pointed out an article in the Sept. 17, 2007 *New York Times* concerning the tradition of Barnard writers mentoring the next generation of Barnard writers. Mentioned, of course, was **Rosellen Brown Hoffman**. What really caught me was this quote from Mary Gordon

'71, "Barnard's secret is that it pays attention to women's voices," when historically, "in the literary world, it is the male voice that is the default setting." Recalling her own student days, Gordon said, "What I felt was that these extraordinary women that I revered were paying attention to me and believed in me, and I felt maybe I can do this because these terrific women were saying I can."

Susan Goldhor writes, "Nothing has made me admire **Sheila Nevins** more than reading the *New York Times* article about her HBO special on injured Iraq war veterans, which she made after being denied access to Walter Reed Army Hospital by government officials (who were not happy about her earlier *Baghdad E.R.* documentary). It's clear that Sheila has used her position to make important statements, in a humane and nonpartisan way."

Gail S. Weinberg died on Aug. 10, 2007. Quoting from the *Boston Globe*, Gail "earned her PhD from Harvard University's English department. As an independent scholar, Dr. Weinberg became an acknowledged authority on the Pre-Raphaelites, publishing numerous articles in scholarly journals and curating a show on John Ruskin at the Fogg Art Museum. She frequently lectured at various museums and for many years served as a docent at the Fogg. A memorial service was held there on September 18th." She is survived by family and friends, one of whom, **Marjorie Wechsler**, writes, "I can't possibly sum up in a few words over 40 years of friendship. She was witty, charming, and delightful, and her many friends will deeply miss her." Gail's cousin Francine Engler writes, "She left a brother, Laurie, and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. Gail was a unique combination of intellect, warmth, humor, and 'impracticalness.' We will miss her dearly."

—MLS

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Deborah Melzak

Shichtman of Great Neck, N.Y., writes:

"As a retiree and an officer of the Nassau County and New York State League of Women Voters, I am working to get optical-scan voting machines in use to secure our votes. As an officer of a local child-care partnership, I am promoting the importance of early childhood education." **Joyce Rosman Brenner** of Israel says, "I feel sad that I didn't make our 45th Reunion ... [I'm] promising myself to be at our 50th. I am still busy working and grandmommying—my eighth was born this past winter."

Thelma Fishman Taub's son, Eliot Isaac, married Seungah Jeong in August. Thelma is an administrative assistant at the Center for Public Health Education at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and her husband is a retired aerospace engineer.

Nancy Engbretsen Lind and her husband, Russ La Valla, collect books about Charles Dickens in their Pomona, N.Y., home. They have just started the Rockland Dickens Fellowship, a sort-of book club for Dickens fans (dickensfellowship.org). Nancy "flunked retirement" and is happily teaching part-time at Rockland Community College in Ramapo.

I had the pleasure of dining several times with **Ayda Yegengil Sakbani** in Geneva in September. She and her husband and children have been living there for around 25 years. Ayda received her PhD in literature from New York University, married, moved to Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., and had children while teaching. When her husband, Mahmoud Sakbani, was offered a job with the World Bank in Geneva, she gave up her tenure reluctantly for the move. Their married daughter recently moved from London back to Geneva with her family, and Ayda sees her grandchildren every morning before go-

ing off to Webster College, where she's now academic director after teaching there for many years. We urge her to retire like her husband and enjoy her new home on the coast of Turkey. Her son, Ken, is a physician and is opening a private practice in Geneva. I had been close friends with Ayda and Mahmoud until the early 1970s when I moved from New York to Maine, and she moved to Europe. It was a wonderful reunion. My son lives in Geneva, where he works for SunPower Corporation and has been senior project manager for the two largest solar energy projects in the world in Bavaria and Portugal.

I have uncovered a stash of updates mostly from 2005–06, all on donation forms. **Ellen Handler Spitz** notes the publishing of the paperback of her book, *The Brightening Glance: Imagination and Childhood*. She was named Erikson Scholar at the Austen Riggs Center in Stockbridge, Mass., for the summer of 2007. **Nancy Chezar Milgram** announces the birth of her 14th grandchild and regrets missing the reunion. **Vivian Finsmith Sobchack** retired from being associate dean of the UCLA School of Theater, Film, and Television. She also wrote the well-received book *Carnal Thoughts: Embodiment and Moving Image Culture*.

Sharon Bittenson Meltzer retired after more than 25 years of teaching in the city colleges of Chicago where she was professor of English. She enjoys the prospect of leisure for scholarly pursuits, the accomplishments of productive children, two grandchildren, and precious friends made at Barnard.

Sylvie Alpert Bryant writes that she retired from 29 years at the United Nations. Her last post was with the U.N. Drug Control and Crime Prevention Program. She has been a volunteer at the Metropolitan Museum of Art giving tours in French and English. **Joan Sharp Feldman** has twin grandsons and teaches art history part-time at the University of Maryland Baltimore County. **Eleanor Epstein Siegal**

retired from her career as a professional organizer and now travels around the world playing bridge as a bronze life master. She enjoys her five grandchildren and plans to visit New York at least once every two years.

Sadly, **Ellen Adler Krantz** died after

being hit by a car in 2006. We extend sympathy to her family and friends.

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The dedication of our class's plaque in the Reunion Courtyard of the Vagelos Alumnae Center brought out 23 classmates:

Alice Finkelstein Alekman, Maya Freed Brown, Eleanor Edelstein, Abbe Fessenden, Libby Guth Fishman, Naomi Albert Gardener, Rosalind Marshak Gordon, Sara Marks Ginsberg, Karen Charal Gross, Valerie Horst, Harriet Kaye Inselbuch, Joan Lewis Kretschmer, Ruth Nemzoff, Joy Felsher Perla, Linda Rosenblum Persily, Joyce Ragen Prenner, Rosalie Sacks Levine, Elinor Yudin Sachse, Nancy Brown Schmiderer, Jean Shaffer, Jackie Martin Stein, Nancy Kung Wong, and me. Our class raised more than \$230,000, setting a record for a 45th Reunion class.

News gathered at the class supper in the Elliott Parlor following the dedication came from Linda Persily, who audits Barnard courses and enjoys getting to know professors, students, and other alumnae auditors. Ruth Nemzoff's book, *Don't Bite Your Tongue: How to Foster Relations with Your Adult Children*, will be published by Palgrave Macmillan this spring. Jean Shaffer is a Feldenkrais practitioner of movement education at the Feldenkrais Center of Park Slope, Brooklyn. Elinor Sachse will have a photography show, "Black, White and Color," at the Levine School of Music in Washington, D.C.

Libby Fishman and Eleanor Edelstein ask that you contact them directly, or through me, to let them know if you'll be in Florida (for Libby) or Arizona and New Mexico (for Ellie) during the winter months. They'd like to arrange a get-together.

H. Barbara Kalman Weinberg, Alice Pratt Brown Curator of American Painting at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, received the Lawrence A. Fleischman Award for Scholarly Excellence in the

Field of American Art History, at the Archives' gala benefit dinner in New York. Congratulations to **Dana Levine**

Levine on the birth of twin grandchildren. **Claudia Graff Bial**'s daughter, Deborah, was named a MacArthur Fellow. Deborah is president and founder of the Posse Foundation, which identifies and nurtures qualified seniors in inner-city high schools and sends them in groups of 10 (posses) to first-rate colleges.

Francine Grossbart Aaron notified me that **Sheila Nathanson Duncan** passed away in Jerusalem. Sheila had been a mathematician at the Newport, R.I., naval base. She read Russian classics in their original language and loved walking and birding. She is survived by a son in Israel and a daughter in the United States.

Please remember our class's "50 for 50" campaign and send your \$50 at once or over a period of five years to replenish our class treasury for our 50th Reunion. Make your check out to Class of 1962 Treasury and send it to Erin Fredrick '01 at the Alumnae Affairs office.

Make sure I have your e-mail address so I can send you our class e-newsletters.

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45th Reunion May 29 – June 1, 2008

63 It's almost time for our 45th Reunion. We'll begin festivities with a cocktail party on

Thursday at **Shirley Sherak**'s SoHo loft. On Friday, we'll have a class dinner on campus. On Saturday, before the evening gala, we'll have some stimulating discussion in our class lounge.

Marian Mandel Bauer and **Judith Rothgart MacDonald** are doing the planning and seem to have something else wonderful up their sleeves.

Adrienne Kole Nassau, a music major at Barnard who later got a master's in urban planning, retired in 2000 from the World Bank where she had planned and supervised projects in her specializa-

tion: housing and urban development, water and sanitation, and culture and heritage. From 2003 to 2007, she was the president of the 1818 Society, a group that manages the retirement, social contact, and benefits for the far-flung retirees of the World Bank. She remains an officer and still serves on the board. A widow for six years, two of her three children live in the Washington, D.C., area.

Susan Page has been retired for three years. She still does some consulting in human resources, her area of specialty, near her place on the Chesapeake Bay, where she can see deer and bald eagles from her porch, from which she can also see boats. For 30 years she worked at PPG Industries, a Pittsburgh-based manufacturing company. With a master's in counseling psychology, her primary responsibility was management and executive development. As a consultant, she teaches workshops in career development for employees at all career stages. Susan enjoys studying French and traveling. For the past 10 years she has vacationed in the Outer Banks with a group of friends. With another group of French friends she explores France and the United States in alternating years.

Barbara Solomon Pasternak represents the Barnard Club of Monmouth County at campus events. She is three times retired. First from teaching Latin in high school (she was a classics major at Barnard), then from the Social Security Administration, where for 20 years she was a claims processor for the SSI program, and the third time from teaching Latin, once again. She has been married since 1964 and her husband just entered his third career as a high school teacher of math and programming. She has three daughters: Alison, a teacher in Arlington, Va.; Jean, a social worker in New York; and Jessica, who lives in New Jersey and took Barbara to see the new Greek and Roman galleries at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

For the past 10 years, **Natalie Chalf Pergam** has been the volunteer in charge of book donations and book sales at the St. Agnes branch of the New York Public Library, a position that had become like a full-time job. The library however has closed for much needed renovations recently, and Nata-

Barnard's Summer in NYC

Program offers young men and women the opportunity to learn like college students, explore career opportunities, build leadership skills, and take advantage of NYC's resources. It is open to students who will have completed the 10th and 11th grade by June. To learn more go to www.barnard.edu/pcp or call 212.854.8866.

lie's looking for a new adventure. Her husband died 14 years ago. She has two children, who are both in New York, and one grandchild.

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Anna Gavin '00 writes that in a coming together of generations, she, **Bonnie Tocher**

Clause, and Vicki Hewitt '96 all work at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Bonnie was program director for the Institute for Law and Economics; she started a new job with the Philadelphia Area Center for History of Science last June, while Vicki took over as program director for the Institute. Anna's the faculty events planner at the Law School. They discovered their Barnard connection after reading Class Notes and comparing notes about the many uses of Brooks Living Room, the "new" Sulzberger Hall, and the former Kings Crown Hotel dorms, and other such subjects.

Carol Berkin has been appointed Presidential Professor of History at Baruch College. She is one of the first [along with a professor from the School of Business and the School of Public Affairs at Baruch] to receive this honor. "Even better," she adds, "I can report that my son graduated from Connecticut College and my daughter received her master's from Pratt. And, wonderfully, both live here in New York. Nice to have your grown

The Teacher

Myrna Hardy Simmons '74

Myrna Simmons was born to teach. Even as a young child, sharing a cramped apartment in Manhattan's Amsterdam Houses project with her parents and older brother, she managed to make space for an improvised classroom.

"I'd set up my Patti Playpal and Tammy dolls in front of the bathroom door and teach class," she recalls with amusement. "I didn't know that education would be a lifelong passion, and that I'd take it this far."

In fact, she has taken her love for teaching a long way from that tiny imaginary classroom. Simmons has built a distinguished career in early childhood education, and currently oversees the pre-k programs for Norfolk, Virginia's public schools.

As a high school student, Simmons was unaware of Barnard, but an English teacher advised her to apply. She arrived on campus when the social movements of the era were at their peak. "There was a lot going on, including the fight for African-American studies," Simmons says. She particularly recalls studying in the College's psychology department and education program at a pivotal time: "I was there the first year they started formally observing young children's behavior at the Toddler Center. Almost no one else was focusing on pre-k then or knew how important that research would be."

After graduation, Simmons began to earn a master's degree while teaching on the Lower East Side. She married, had two daughters, and moved from the public school system to the Salvation Army Daycare Program in Brownsville, Brooklyn. During her 11-year tenure there, she trained family day-care providers and helped them qualify for certification. By the 1990s, with a divorce behind her and a long-sought master's degree in hand, Simmons became coordinator for the Day Care Council of New York. The years immediately preceding her move to Virginia were spent at Grand Street Settlement, one of the country's oldest providers of community services.

In Norfolk, as the school district's senior coordinator of early childhood education, Simmons oversees a program serving more than 2,000 children and their families. "Not only are we preparing these children to read, write, and increase their language skills, but we're also making connections between learning and life," she says. "We teach and prepare them to analyze, make sound decisions, and eventually become productive citizens."

Remarried, a grandmother now, and taking care of her own elderly mother, Simmons is considering going back to school to earn her PhD. Old Dominion University is courting her for its doctoral program and would like her to do new studies of at-risk children.

—Anne Schutzberger

children nearby." An interview with Carol was included in a televised documentary about Alexander Hamilton recently, and she'll also be featured in an upcoming film about Dolley Madison.

Karen Tweedy-Holmes signed copies of a book she coauthored, *Thought to Exist in the Wild*, at Morningside Bookshop. The book is a condemnation of zoos. It combines 83 of her black-and-white photographs of cap-



tive animals taken in zoos around the country (and at one in Jersey, Channel Islands, U.K.) over a period of 30 years with a critical essay by environmental activist and writer Derrick Jensen. The book has garnered enthusiastic reviews from *Booklist*, *Library Journal*, and *ForeWord*. Karen says she chose two kinds images from the thousands of this subject that she has taken over the years: one set emphasizing the animals'

beauty and the other showing the misery of their situation. Her next project celebrates animal sanctuaries and the people who create them. Four years ago, Karen began working with horses and riding after a 45-year absence from the saddle, so the first sanctuary subject for her next book is Exceller Farm in Poughquag, N.Y., where thoroughbreds discarded by the racing industry are rescued from slaughter and retrained.

Miriam Bokser Caravella writes: "After graduation, I was a freelance photographer for some years—at first focusing on the 'movement' (i.e., Columbia student strike, Civil Rights Movement, antiwar protests, etc.), and then broadening into general documentary and editorial work, including a focus on music and the arts. In 1974, I married Wayne Caravella, who inspired me with his photography. In 1975, we visited India for the first time. In 1980, I joined the U.S. Foreign Service (USIA), and we enjoyed many interesting years overseas. I served mostly in the cultural affairs sections of the U.S. embassies, planning and executing programs for American lecturers on a variety of subjects related to U.S. policy and society, as well as arts exhibitions and performing arts programs representing American culture. I served in New Delhi twice, in Bombay, and in Medan (Sumatra), Indonesia, before retiring in 2004. As I had served in India over a total of 11 years, it was not a big change to retire here. I am happily engaged in writing and researching my subjects of interest, mainly Jewish mysticism and universal spirituality." She has one book, *The Holy Name*, and is working on new projects in addition to traveling the world.

Georgia Dobrer Kramer announces the wedding of her daughter, Cheryl Jacqueline Kramer, the beauty director at *Redbook*, to David Ian Kaye, owner of *mybigblackbook.com*, a wedding-planning service, and a waiter at Smith & Wollensky in New York.

Breaking down audience perceptions of what dance is and the distinction between dance as performance and dance as a way of life, **Sara Rudner** staged a four-hour autobiography, *This Dancing Life*, in Kilkenny, Ireland, last August. Rudner always danced as a child, she says, but at Barnard she was a distance swimmer, which kept

her body flexible. After graduation, she formed an experimental all-female company with Twyla Tharp '63, where "we performed without music or sound other than our own breathing and footfalls.... We were pariahs." However, their collaboration lasted nearly 20 years. Sara's own performances include roles in Milos Forman movies, and she choreographed *Heartbeat* for Mikhail Baryshnikov. Many of us were fortunate enough to see her perform at our last reunion.

Congratulations to **Ellen R. Gritz**, PhD, on her election to the Institute of Medicine, considered one of the highest honors in the fields of medicine and health. Ellen is chair of the department of behavioral science and Olla S. Stribling Distinguished Chair for Cancer Research at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. She is a leader in cancer prevention and control research and has published extensively on cigarette-smoking behavior.

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65 Some of our class officers have been planning a mini-reunion for Columbus Day weekend. If you're interested in participating in the planning or in attending, please let them know. There will be mailings and e-mail updates, but you can also access Barnard's Web site and look for our class Web page, which will be updated as plans mature. Many thanks to the brain trust: **Nanci Buchalter Allen**, **Betty Booth**, **B-J Lunin-Frishberg**, **Linda Lebensold**, **Jane Newham McGroarty**, and **Barbara Rieck Morrow**. **Isabel Wagley Kottak** spent a wonderful year in her home on Seabrook Island, S.C., and would love to see alumnae who live in the Charleston area. She's retired, and her husband is on sabbatical. This winter they'll spend four months in Florence as part of a University of Michigan program, then it's back to Ann Arbor.

Sadly, **Randall Watson Forsberg** died of cancer on Oct. 19, 2007, in New York. The *New York Times* obituary summarized Randall's extraordinary

life as founder of the Institute for Defense and Disarmament Studies and organizer of the nuclear freeze movement. She was a divorced mother, holder of a PhD from MIT, and recipient of a MacArthur Foundation award. In addition, she entered the Massachusetts senatorial primary as a write-in candidate two weeks before the election in 2002, to protest John Kerry's vote authorizing military action in Iraq. She received more than 22,000 votes. Most recently, she was appointed as a professor of political science at City College. Our hearts go out to Randall's sister, mother, daughter, friends, and colleagues.

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66 It was so nice to hear from **Carolyn Brancato**, a director of The Conference Board

Governance Center and Directors' Institute and the author of two major books on corporate governance. She has been invited to speak on global trends in corporate governance by leading corporate, investor, and governmental organizations in more than 20 countries. Before joining The Conference Board, Carolyn was a securities analyst for a Wall Street brokerage firm and later the head of the industry analysis and finance section of the Congressional Research Service, United States Congress. Carolyn has also served as the executive director of the Columbia Law School Institutional Investor Project, the staff director for the U.S. Competitive-ness Policy Council's Subcouncil on Corporate Governance and Financial Markets, and as chief economist for the law firm of Weil Gotshal & Manges. Carolyn is a fellow of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufacturers & Commerce. After graduation, she earned a PhD in public finance from New York University.

Linda Rein was promoted to senior

vice president and general counsel of Lifetime Entertainment Services. Linda has more than 25 years of experience in television, movies, and music. She joined Lifetime in 2001. Prior to that, Linda was associate general counsel at Columbia House from 1999–2000, and vice president, business and legal affairs, at BMG Classics from 1995–98. She was a senior associate at Grubman Indursky & Schindler from 1988–94. Linda will oversee all legal matters for Lifetime.

Amy Richman Mayer writes that she's now Rabbi Mayer. In May 2007, she graduated from the Jewish Theological Seminary and was ordained as a rabbi after six years of full-time study.

It's been a busy year for me. I've traveled to many places, including Brazil, El Salvador, Japan, Kenya, and Monaco—all with my husband to see track and field meets. In Osaka, Japan, he was elected a vice president of the IAAF, the international governing body of track and field. We were home for a week in August to welcome our third granddaughter.

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67 Barbara Crampton McGregor

Barbara Crampton McGregor lives with her husband, David, in Forest Hills, N.Y.

She has three daughters: Susan, an information designer for the *Wall Street Journal*; Rachel, a consultant in investment banking and a songwriter; and Jane, who's working for an architect and urban design group. Barbara is also the grandmother of 3-year-old Seamus.

Antoinette Savage was named a Microsoft Most Valuable Professional for Microsoft Dynamics SL business solutions. The award recognizes exceptional technology experts. She's vice president of technical support at Queue Associates, an information technology consulting firm. Prior to joining Queue, she founded TS Systems, working with microcomputer accounting systems. She received her management accounting certificate from New York University.

After serving as director of the New York Foundation for the Arts, **Ann Marrow McKinney** has taken over leadership of Joyful Noise Inc., a choral organization based in Torrington, Conn. In addition to her degree from Barnard, she also holds a bachelor's in cello and a master's in music from the Manhattan School of Music. She taught at the LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts, served as executive director of the American Guild of Organists and of the Interschool Orchestras of New York, from which she retired in 2006. She still returns to New York City once a week to sing with the New Amsterdam Singers.

Adrienne Aaron Rulnick was named associate vice president for alumni relations and annual giving in the division of development and alumni relations at George Washington University. Adrienne recently served as executive director of university alumni relations and development at NYU. She has a master's from the University of Albany and a doctor of education in higher education administration from the University of Massachusetts.

Continuing a prolific career, **Alice Notley** had a new book of poetry, *In The Pines*, published. She has more than 25 published books. She's often referred to as a member of the second generation of the New York School of poets, though she has been living in Paris for a number of years. She edits the magazine *Gare du Nord* and is the widow of the poets Ted Berrigan and Douglas Oliver. Alice has two sons, Anselm and Edmund Berrigan, who are also poets.

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40th Reunion May 29 – June 1, 2008

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Start buying your tickets and making your reservations (you should have NO reservations about coming to our 40th Reunion). Once you see your classmates, the years will melt away, and it will be as if college was yesterday. We have been busy preparing for your

arrival. Those of us that were available—**Linda Rosen Garfunkel, Jeri Seife Famighetti, Nancy Inglis, Susan Berggren Rothschild, and Susan Kristal Wine** in person, and **Rena Bonne, Toby Sambol Edelman, Amy Morris Hess** and **Leslie Morioka** on conference call—met at the Vagelos Alumnae Center to plan various activities. You received a letter in October outlining the results of our committee meeting. As you could see, it looks like a wonderful, intellectual, yet light-hearted weekend. I hope to see you there. Meanwhile, it was nice to see all of the committee members for our own working mini-reunion. I also received an e-mail from **Elaine Kolman Rau** who had a mini-reunion in downtown Chicago at the end of September. In addition to Elaine, the others attending were **Judith Lansky, Janice Moore, and Alice Altbach Schreyer** (with whom I went to high school). I hope you all get to reunion in May. By the way, my son, Sam, is now living in Evanston, Ill. Small world.

Ellie Forman Cullman was featured in an article about the top 100 designers in the September 2007 issue of *Architectural Digest*. She's quoted as saying, "there is less diversity in our field at the present time." She suggests that designers have a responsibility to re-invigorate the profession by producing work in a wide variety of styles, looking to other cultures for inspiration.

Lida Orzeck and her company, Hanky-Panky, were the subjects of an article in the Sept. 10, 2007 *Crain's New York Business*. The article summarized the company's meteoric rise after over 20 years of peaceful, low-profile existence and the trials and tribulations of such notoriety. "It was much more difficult to meet a sudden, intense surge in demand than it had been to start the company up in the first place," said Lida. The article highlighted the changes in the company that are the products of its success and how Lida and her partner, Gale Epstein, are trying to preserve their company's image despite the necessary alterations like relocation and increased hiring.

Marti Shames Groen, my former roommate, and her husband, Cliff, came through White Plains, N.Y., last fall on their way from their home in the

Washington, D.C., area to their place in Vermont. Jeff, my husband, Marti, Cliff and I had a wonderful dinner at a local Italian restaurant and got to catch up on our lives after not having seen each other for a year and a half. In addition, it was sort of a 60th birthday celebration for all of us, so it was doubly festive. I'm teaching one class at my old place of employment, Pelham Memorial High School. They had one chemistry section they couldn't cover and it was a perfect job for me—one hour in the mid-morning, four days out of every six. One day I'll have to learn how to retire.

—ASK

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69 **Evelyn Hu** has been appointed to the endowed chair for the director of the California NanoSystems Institute at the University of California-Santa Barbara. The chair is named for the late scientific pioneer Peter J. Clarke. The professorship is pending approval by the U.C. Regents. Evelyn was a collaborator of Clarke's and will be the first to occupy the Clarke chair. Her research focuses on the formation of nanophotonic devices that provide more energy-efficient lighting sources and may also facilitate new, faster computation and communications. Evelyn is also professor of electrical and computer engineering and materials. She received her bachelor's in physics and earned a master's and a PhD in physics from Columbia. A member of the National Academy of Engineering, the Academia Sinica of Taiwan, and the Institute for Electrical and Electronic Engineers, she's also a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and the American Physical Society. In addition to being a recipient of a National Science Foundation Distinguished Teaching Fellow Award and a Lifetime Mentor

Award from the AAAS, she holds an honorary doctorate of engineering from the University of Glasgow.

Superior Court Judge Margot Botsford was nominated to the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. Margot, a former assistant attorney general and Middlesex County prosecutor, is a graduate of Northeastern University's law school and Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. She's been a Superior Court justice for 18 years.

Performance artist **Laurie Anderson** was named the winner of the prestigious Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize, which includes \$300,000 and a silver medal. Previous recipients include Arthur Miller and Ingmar Bergman. She was a guest of the Melbourne International Arts Festival in October. Classmates gathered in October to reminisce, reconnect, and plan our 40th Reunion.

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70 **Elizabeth Langland** was named vice president and dean of the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences at Arizona State University. As dean of the college she'll take a leadership role in transforming the college into a center for interdisciplinary research and teaching, one that's recognized for sustaining academic excellence.

Marian Alexis Scott, who attended Barnard as well as Spelman College in Atlanta, just celebrated a decade as publisher and CEO of the *Atlanta Daily World*. She serves on the boards of several nonprofit organizations in the Atlanta area.

Norma Garfen Pressman has become a grandmother. Her daughter Emily Appelbaum (SEAS '03) and her husband, Yoni (CC '03), welcomed Ellie Kayla on Nov. 1, 2007, in Cambridge, Mass. Ellie is the namesake of her great-aunt Ellen G. Pressman '68, who passed away last year.

Rebecca Cook recently coedited

Health and Human Rights. Since June 2007 **Karen Kisslinger** has been enjoying blogging on the "Living Now" page of HuffingtonPost.com. She has also joined the board of Acupuncturists Without Borders, which does on-the-ground "community acupuncture" in areas of disaster and trauma, such as the post-Katrina Gulf Coast and the San Diego area after the fires last fall.

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71 Congratulations to **Dr. Carin Horowitz Lamm** and her husband, Dr. Steven Lamm.

Their daughter, Suzanne Carole, married Evan Michael Roberts on July 29, 2007, in New York. The bride graduated magna cum laude from Colgate University, is a fourth-year medical student at New York College of Osteopathic Medicine and is completing her master's in public health at Boston University. Carin is a pediatric pulmonologist at Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York-Presbyterian, director of their Pediatric Sleep Disorders Center, and an associate professor of clinical pediatrics at Columbia's College of Physicians & Surgeons.

Wedding bells also rang for **Mary Gorayeb Friberg**'s daughter Karen, who wed restaurateur Nicholas Mrnarevic in Closter, N.J., on Sept. 1, 2007. Karen, a 2003 Cornell graduate, writes for the *Community Life* newspaper in Westwood, N.J. She was attended by her twin sisters Honor and Christina. Christina performs with the Metropolitones, a Seven Sisters a capella group in Manhattan.

An article from the Sept. 19, 2007 *New York Times* about teaching writing at Barnard featured **Mary Gordon**, a professor there since 1990 and a former

chair of the English department. Mary recently published *Circling My Mother: A Memoir*, an autobiographical examination of her childhood and her relationship with her mother.

Maureen Strafford and her husband, Alex H. MacDonald, were pictured in an Aug. 17, 2007 *Times* article about presidential fund-raising on Martha's Vineyard, where they were hosting a fund-raiser for former Senator John Edwards.

Ina May Wool was in the off-Broadway show *10 Million Miles*, in which she played guitar and sang with the band. A musical with songs by Patty Griffin, it was directed by Michael Mayer of *Spring Awakening*. Ina loved every moment.

Barbara B. Ballinger came in from St. Louis for Barnard Leadership Council, where she lunched with our hard-working fund chair, **Linda Parnes Kahn**. The Oct. 1, 2007 issue of *Investment News* praised **Ellen Futter**'s many accomplishments since taking the reins at the American Museum of Natural History 13 years ago. They include the construction and opening of the Rose Center, doubling the museum's annual traffic, substantially increasing its endowment, and—a U.S. museum first—securing authorization to grant graduate degrees in science. The article reminded us that when she became president of Barnard at 32, Ellen was the youngest person ever to head a major U.S. college.

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72 **Frances Sadler** has been nominated as the next president of the Alumnae Association. Her biography and the ballot for voting are included in this issue. Leadership Council was held last October. Frances, **Katie Cangelosi, Ronda Small**, and **Jan Vinokour** attended. One of the first sessions dealt with the presidential search process. The search committee indicated that they are on track to announce a candidate by early

spring. The search committee shared with alumnae some characteristics they are looking for: academic reputation, fund-raising and managerial abilities, political acumen, a passion for women's education, and being a role model. At a session on Barnard's finances, we learned the operating budget is \$130.5 million with expenditures of: compensation (52 percent), financial aid (20 percent), and payments to Columbia (3 percent). The admissions/financial aid panel noted that Barnard was still the most selective women's college in the country, receiving about 4,600 applications for 560 places. The total cost to attend is now about \$46,000. However, 41 percent of current students receive financial aid directly from Barnard and the average grant from all sources is \$28,000. The Barnard Fund is critical for providing this aid.

Mila Oden Jasey was elected to fill the seat vacated by Assembly Member Mims Hackett, Jr., for Essex County, N.J. Mila has retired as a public health nurse; her husband just retired from being deputy chief counsel for Prudential Insurance. Although their three children, Neil, Rhena, and Kyle, are grown, she has been serving on the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education since 1999 after spending years on PTA boards.

Frances Sadler reported on her trip to South Africa, which also included Toni Crowley Coffee '56, Carol Herman Cohen '59, Marcella Jung Rosen '55. All were part of a group of 26 alumnae from the Seven Sisters. The trip was called Beyond Apartheid; the program was "An International Dialogue Among Women." They met with influential women from academia, government, business, and various townships to hear their vision for the future and to ask questions.

From Israel, **Sharon Album Blass** reports she has eight children and two grandchildren (so far). She teaches English as a foreign language at Hebrew University and other places, and has translated a book about a celebrated scientist and underground fighter. She lives in Neve Tzuf with her husband, a rabbi. She had hoped to make it in for the last reunion, but her mother passed away. She has found another classmate, **Shelly Svei Schlingenbaum**, living in

Ranana, Israel. Shelly has three children and is now a grandmother of five. She has been "found" after being on the list as "mail returned."

Please send us your e-mail address; we're missing e-mails for 50 percent of our class. We intend to start doing e-mail-based correspondence on a more regular basis and you'll be missing out on it!

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35th Reunion May 29 – June 1, 2008

73 As we're approaching our 35th Reunion, **Jessica Raimi** of the reunion committee has

asked me to pass this on: Some of you will recall that for our 25th Reunion, **Sherry Katz-Bearnot** solicited essays from classmates about our lives today for a book we called *Mortarboard + 25*. Forty-three of you submitted pieces for it and at least 43 others were sorry to be left out. (There are several copies left. If you want one, write to me at jraimi@earthlink.net.)

For our 35th Reunion, we're doing a similar project. We envision a book of reminiscences of our college years, specifically how the politics and culture of the time affected us—or didn't. Did you go to demonstrations? Did you do your homework and hope the craziness would stop? How did you spend your time? What identity crises did you survive? What are your most vivid memories of your life at Barnard?

We're asking you to spend an evening recalling your youth and we prepared a list of questions—not a questionnaire—to start you thinking. It was included in a mailing last fall, which we'll gladly resend you. We're not asking you to sum up the meaning of the early '70s, but merely to reflect on a few aspects of your years at college. We're eager to read what you have to say, so please make the effort.

We're also preparing a slide show for our Friday night class dinner. If you have pictures or relevant memorabilia to share, please send them, either electronically or by mail. All items bearing

your name and address will be returned. So write something or find something, and send it to jraimi@earthlink.net or to Sherry at spk1@columbia.edu. Our deadline is April 1. I hope you'll contribute and mark your calendar for reunion.

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75 Kim Mills of Washington, D.C., is with the American Psychological Association, overseeing member and public communications. After earning a master's in journalism, Kim was a long-time reporter and administrator for the Associated Press. She went on to direct communications for the Human Rights Campaign, then to the Whitman-Walker Clinic.

After 18 years practicing general and colorectal surgery in Plattsburgh, N.Y., **Judith Weisman** moved to Damariscotta, Maine, "I'm still practicing full-time but at a much more civilized pace. Visitors to the mid-coast are welcomed." Her son Gabriel has graduated from University of Rochester, and her son Dana, still in high school, is a serious jazz pianist.

I read an article on the way Americans think about genetics and identity written by **Lynn Davidman**, professor of Judaic studies, American civilization and gender studies at Brown.

Jessica Chao was on campus to talk to students interested in arts-related careers. Jessica is an expert in foundation and program management for Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors. One project, funded by the Kellogg Foundation, promotes philanthropy in emerging donor communities including racial/ethnic minorities and recent immigrant communities.

Jo Ann Engelhardt was written up in *Global Investor* as one of 20 "highly regarded" women in wealth management. She works with Bessemer Trust in Palm Beach, Fla.

With sadness, I report the death of **Martha Keck Zalkind**. She earned her MBA in finance at Fordham and worked

for many years in the travel industry, moving to Atlanta to manage the creation of computer-based reservations systems for Worldspan. The love of literature some of us remember her for was lifelong, as was her love of music. She is survived by her husband, Ron, a Juilliard-trained classical pianist. Our hearts go out to Ron, and to Martha's dearest friend, **Andrea Hochland**.

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76 I heard from **Krista Gottlieb**, who has spent the past decade living in Buffalo, N.Y., where she's making a name for herself as a mediator, an honor marked by a listing in a special supplement of *New York Magazine* called "The New York Area's Best Lawyers." Krista also is listed in the *Buffalo Law Journal's* "Who's Who in Law." Krista has been practicing law for 28 years but clearly is fulfilled by the 12 years she has spent as a mediator. **Odette Wilkens** writes that an article she cowrote on the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act of 2006 was selected as a finalist for Project Censored's *Top 25 Censored Stories of 2008*. According to Odette, the law was "ostensibly enacted to curtail property damage by animal activists," but it "effectively curtails our First Amendment rights of free speech and association." Odette is executive director of the Equal Justice Alliance, which is committed to creating public awareness of the law, and either repealing or amending it.

Also in legal news is **Andrea Katz Stimmel**, who joined Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP, as the law firm's first business development director. According to the firm, Andrea "will lead Curtis' strategic business development, while overseeing all marketing and communications programs supporting the firm's continued worldwide expansion."

Sandra Caskie weighed in with her good legal news. She marked her 21st year as an ob/gyn this past summer "with only one major lawsuit," which she won. I can't imagine how many babies

she's delivered over the years but one of them is my 17-year-old daughter! I remember trying to get my baby born before midnight so Sandy could get home to her own children. Now she reports that her son Ben graduated this past spring from Brown University, and her son Jeremy started Hamilton College this fall.

Jill Whitehurst Robbins transferred into our class in her junior year. She was married and living off campus but she's looking to "reconnect with the women I shared a suite with in 620 West 116th Street in the fall of 1976." Jill is a professional linguist (jillrobbins.com). She has a master's degree and a PhD in applied linguistics and has been teaching English in Japan for the past seven years. Jill is the associate project director of the National Capital Language Resource Center in Washington, D.C.

In my short time as correspondent, my favorite submission so far comes from **Elizabeth Neiditz Benedict**, who sends along an article, "What I Learned About Sex on the Internet." A decade ago, Elizabeth was dubbed "The Sex Priestess of the Ivy League," by the *New York Observer*. She earned that moniker for promoting her book *The Joy of Writing Sex: A Guide for Fiction Writers* while teaching creative writing at Princeton. Actually, Elizabeth has had a distinguished career as a novelist (elizabethbenedict.com).

Jill Scheuer writes that her oldest daughter, Rebecca Pattiz, entered Barnard last August. That's just the kind of news we love to hear.

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77 Last spring, **Carole Mahoney Everett** and I retired (or were retired) as your class co-presidents. But we didn't get far. Carole will be serving as our fund chair and I have the honor of being class correspondent. Many thanks to **Jacqueline Laks Gorman** for her many years in this post and to **Ruth Leibowitz** for all

Are you premed?

If you are planning to apply to medical or any other health professions school in 2008, contact Dean Ani Bournotian at abournoutian@barnard.edu or 212.854.2024, by May 1 to receive a Barnard Prehealth Professions Committee letter of evaluation.

her help filling in this summer. Also thank you to outgoing class officers:

Deborah Aschheim, Christine Riep Mason, Andrea Shepard, who are now directors at large. Joining them on that board is **Faith Paulsen**.

I want to hear from all of you, especially those who have never checked in: Where have you been... Where are you now... Where are you going... and What's your secret passion?

Theresa Racht is excited about being our class president. She can't wait to start planning our reunion—only four and a half years away. Theresa started her own law firm in 2005, called Racht & Taffae, LLP, where they specialize in representing cooperatives and condominiums as well as real estate transactions of all kinds. In her spare time she travels and does needlework design under the name Arachne's Silken Web.

Joanna Lisanti, our vice president and reunion chair, heads up marketing for a new TV venture at NBC based on literacy for kids. Her daughter, Allegra, is a first-year at Barnard and Joanna says, "I don't feel like an empty nester. I've just transferred my maternal feelings toward my golden retriever. Catch me any morning in Central Park with other empty nesters and their dogs."

Nancy Crown, our new class treasurer, has her own real estate law practice in Boca Raton, Fla., and is also an empty nester—her youngest, Adam, now works on Wall Street and her daughter, who married in 2005 in Fort Lauderdale (the weekend Hurricane Wilma hit), lives and works in Miami. Nancy says, "I've taken up ballroom dancing, and I'm having a wonderful time. It's my new passion!"

Francine Benzaken Glick, our new networking chair, has been growing her company, Water Journey, into a suc-

cessful business. They make Hands-2Go, an alcohol-free hand sanitizer. Her daughter Natalie is a theatre major at Barnard in her third year and her daughter Joelle, 23, is a second-year medical student at New York University.

Carole Mahoney Everett, fund chair, works in education at St. Luke's School in Greenwich Village. She and her husband, CJ, run the Spoleto Arts Symposium, a series of summer workshops in Spoleto, Italy. Included are classes for opera singers, writers, and jazz musicians, as well as a cooking school and a kids camp. Working in Italy allows Carole to feed her passion for singing and opera. Their son, Colin, is in eighth grade at St. Bernard's School. As for me, I left my pediatric practice soon after our 25th Reunion and started Simply Parenting, a company that creates books and DVDs on parenting and child development. I still teach at the Children's Hospital in Morristown, N.J., and do parenting workshops. My daughter, Liz, is a sophomore at Goucher College and I'm dealing with the empty nest (without the dogs). Last year we moved and I learned all about renovation—I nearly had a nervous breakdown and wondered why I studied medicine rather than interior design.

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30th Reunion May 29 – June 1, 2008

78 I don't remember **Felice Rosser** as "shy," although in a recent e-mail that was how she described herself. Frankly, I'm having trouble picturing it because, as the guiding force and bassist of the band Faith, Rosser has not been too shy to escape the notice of music critics who swoon over her deep, bluesy vocals. The *New York Times* has described her voice as "both plangent and wailing." The *Village Voice* seconded the motion: "Bands run by women typically exude distinctive moods and 'tudes, but none more subtly compelling than the Delphic aura given off by the tall and tan young lovely who straps on her ax to deliver

tunes that are not rock, not funk, not r&b, so much as deeply soulful tone poems backed by multiculti dream pop." Wait, here's more: "golden-throated androgynous vocal tones," says one review; "a goddess," says a fellow musician.

Felice, by the way, brought NONE of these accolades to my attention. I was idly Googling her instead of working on my own plangent and wailing voice (so far I'm up to the wailing part), and came across these quite by surprise.

So make sure you buy the shy Felice's new CD, *A Place Where Love Can Grow*. You can't get enough plangent and wailing these days, so act now. Meanwhile, over in Paris, **Merri Rosenberg** and her husband, Kenneth Hupart (SEAS '77), should be just about finishing up their blowout joint-50th-birthday celebration. "Where else would a former French major want to be?" asks Merri rhetorically.

Before the Paris trip, they celebrated at Chez Josephine along with Amy Friedman '77, and her husband, Mitchell Halpern (CC '78), Nancy Herring '79, Doug Hutt (CC '78), Victoria London '79, Thomas Mariam (CC '78), **Emily Gaylord Martinez, Amy Gewirtz McGahan**, Pat Herring Parisi '77, **Lisa Noonan Petter, Alfonsina Rechichi-Sabbas**, Ellen Saideman '79, and Joy Schneer '79. I hope these festivities did not detract from Merri's work on the committee for our upcoming 30th Reunion. I mean, where are her priorities? As for her children, they're not children anymore. Jacob (CC '05) is back from a two-year Kellett Fellowship in Cambridge and is now enrolled at Harvard Law School, and Ruth is a senior at Dartmouth.

"When we're not celebrating birthdays," says Merri, "I'm still freelancing and volunteering for Barnard committees and other community organizations, and Ken is head of endocrinology at Nassau University Medical Center. It's taken us a while, but we think we're getting the hang of this empty nest stage of our lives."

Marilyn Holleran writes: "After 20-odd years in the technology business—and I assume she doesn't mean odd as in "odd"—"I've ditched all that and have joined the Department of State as a foreign service officer. I will be posted

to Astana, Kazakhstan." As odd as that may sound.

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Shari Teitelbaum's most exciting news is that her daughter, Elizabeth Bibi, just started her first year at Barnard. Drop-off day was a walk down memory lane for Shari. Elizabeth lives on the fourth floor of Sulzberger, which is connected to the floor in Hewitt where Shari lived during her sophomore year. Shari says that "the quad is lovely." Shari started her own market-research consulting business, Voice of Reason Research. After more than 20 years in the corporate sector, she decided to go out on her own and it's going surprisingly well. She designs and analyzes consumer research studies for consumer packaged goods companies relating to new product launches and advertising and packaging updates. Shari writes, "I'm enjoying the flexibility it allows me as I now have time to do other things I enjoy," like play tennis, spend time with her 15-year-old daughter and be president of the high school PTA in her town. Last summer, a small group of Barnard friends had a mutual 50th birthday reunion at Shari's house in the Hamptons. **Susan Carol** flew in from Salt Lake City, **Dana Wissner-Levy** was in from Israel, and **Stephanie Litwack Block** came all the way from Manhattan. Missing were **Andrea Meyer**, who was in Italy with her sister, and Merle Myerson '78, who was moving into her new home in Westchester that weekend. "This group of friends has been truly amazing," she writes of the Spaghetti Club, as they call themselves. They've spent every Christmas together since 1980. Additionally, Shari's friends had a mini-tennis team reunion at the U.S. Open. It was arranged by Valerie Schwarz Mason '80 and included Lynda Daniels Byer '78 and "our fabulous tennis/life coach, Marian Rosenwasser," to her box in Louis Armstrong Stadium. Shari's husband surprised her with seats across the aisle from Valerie to celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary. She hopes her daughter will find

lifelong friendships at Barnard.

Diane Stein, as lovely and radiant as ever, is working for Councilmember Alan Gershon of the New York City Council, on a special project pertaining to post-event air quality and the health and safety of residents in the immediate vicinity of the World Trade Center site. The project applies lessons learned from the 2001 experience to emergency planning, evacuations, and drills to prevent injury and death during catastrophic events.

Margaret Cezair-Thompson published her second novel, *The Pirate's Daughter*, which was chosen by the American Booksellers Association as the number one Book Sense pick for October. She's doing a book tour to promote it.

Dinah Surh was declared the ultimate winner on the *Rachael Ray Show's* nationwide cooking challenge in September 2007. Dinah was selected as one of three finalists in a "10 Ingredient Challenge"—a search for the best menu using ingredients chosen by the show's host and her team. Dinah submitted creative recipes for Korean skirt steak with a blueberry glaze, Korean string bean pancakes, and blueberry, apricot, and mint cannoli puffs. Given just 30 minutes on the clock, the contestant's final "3 Ingredient Challenge" was to prepare a dish using fresh tomatoes, corn on the cob, and apple cider to bridge the summer and fall season. Her winning dish drew on her Korean heritage as she made Korean grilled pork chops with a tomato, corn, and fig glaze served with crazy corn parmesan chips. Dinah won a trip for two to Mexico and will take her husband, Shane Triano (SEAS). The recipes are available at rachaelrayshow.com. Dinah appeared on the *Martha Stewart Show* last year and cooked Korean BBQ beef with Martha. She's also a former grand prizewinner of the annual *Staten Island Advance Cookbook Recipe Contest*. As a hospital administrator, Dinah directs a network of health centers for the North Brooklyn Health Network, a city-operated hospital system. She's also president of the New York Ambulatory Care Association. She says she's a hospital administrator by day and a culinary adventuress at night.

I've packed my children off to different

parts of the world: my son, Jay, is studying environmental sciences at the University of Sydney, Australia, this semester, and my daughter, Emalyn, is taking her junior year of high school in Zurich, Switzerland. I'm working in Geneva, Switzerland, at SAFEWORK Division of the International Labor Office (ILO). I've been asked to prepare the proposal for the Fifth Edition of the *ILO Encyclopaedia of Occupational Health and Safety*.

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Lois Elfman won first place in the New Forks Space Writing contest.

"I wrote about a high school classmate who is a renowned planetary scientist. I've subsequently written two more articles for New Forks about space exploration," she says. Her regular gig is covering women's sports for the *Amsterdam News*, in addition to celebrity Q&As and WNBA coverage for *HOOP*, the official magazine of the NBA, and pieces for two lawyers' magazines. "I've even had two essays published in *Strut Magazine* ... where I mouth off my opinions."

"I am the associate producer of a short film titled *First World*. We had a private screening in Los Angeles in March and it is currently being screened at sci-fi conventions in Australia, Japan, and the United States." Lois and the executive producer/screenwriter are working on getting a feature-length version produced, just so I can say, "Coming to a theatre near you!"

For me it's about writing less. Our class is seeking someone more technologically adept to take over this column, so if you're interested, please send me your name and e-mail address. I won't leave you in the lurch before someone volunteers, but believe me, it'll strictly be a case of lurching along together.

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81

Pia De Girolamo

had a solo show of her paintings at Pagus Gallery, a nonprofit alternative space in the Norristown Arts Building in Norristown, Pa. You can see her paintings at piadegirolamo.com. Pia never expected to become a full-time artist. After graduating from Barnard with a major in art history she got her medical degree from the University of Rochester School of Medicine. She became a specialist in infectious disease medicine, went into private practice, and started a family with her husband, Paul Mather, MD.

Then four years ago, frustrated by changes in medicine and pulled by the desire to spend more time with her family, she left clinical practice. She says she decided to take Joseph Campbell's dictum "follow your bliss" to heart, and turned to painting. Her work now is primarily abstract.

Singer/songwriter Suzanne Vega was interviewed by *New York Magazine* in July 2007, coinciding with the release of her most recent album, *Beauty and Crime*. Of course, *Barnard* scooped them with its interview with Suzanne in the Winter 2007 issue, covering her marriage to civil rights attorney Paul Mills, her new manager, and a deal with Blue Note, the jazz label that also produces Norah Jones's albums.

Wendy White commutes between Florida and New York. Her artist's studio and her husband, also an artist, are in the former, and her job with the Downtown Manhattan Alliance is in latter. I've finished a draft of my new book; the working title is *Heal Your Body, Heal Your Life*. I share many experiences from my healing practice and show people how they can better understand their situations on a deeper level, and transform their lives. I've just started to talk to a few agents and some publishers. I'm very excited and can't wait to see it on bookstore shelves.

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A Life Remembered

Rifka Rosenwein '83

During the seven years that Rifka Rosenwein wrote a column about her life for the *New York Jewish Week*, she told readers about her reluctance to buy a doll for her daughter, her joy at having a girl for a third child, and her ambivalence about the idea of one day moving to Israel. And when she was diagnosed with cancer, she told her readers about that, too.

"I have wrestled long and hard over whether to write about my illness," she wrote. "Finally, I realized, I can think of no other response to it. Writing is what I do. Not to write now is tantamount to letting cancer defeat yet another part of me."

Rosenwein, a journalist and a mother of three, died in 2003 at the age of 42. Her column, "Home Front," drew such a devoted group of readers that when she missed a column because of her illness, readers called to ask about her health, says Robert Goldblum, her editor at the paper. "They were calling because they were worried about her," he says. "She deeply touched people, especially with the courage with which she talked about her illness." The 64 columns she wrote have now been published as a book, *Life in the Present Tense*.

In her monthly column, Rosenwein wrote evocatively on subjects great and small, from her confession to babying her youngest child so she could enjoy toddlerhood for just a little longer, to her account of her journey to Czestochowa, Poland, to walk the streets of the town her father left behind when he was captured by the Nazis.

After graduating from Barnard, Rosenwein earned a master's degree from Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government, and then landed a job writing for the *Wall Street Journal*. Raised on the Upper West Side of Manhattan herself, Rosenwein reluctantly left New York behind and moved to Teaneck, New Jersey, with her husband, Barry Lichtenberg, to raise their children.

She captured the dilemma of the working mother with precision. "There is a sense I have that I am playing a zero-sum game," she wrote. "That is, for everything I choose to do in one sphere of my life, there is a loss recorded in another."

Her most poignant columns deal with her battle with cancer. An observant Jew, Rosenwein confessed that her faith had been tested. "Though I have asked God repeatedly: 'Why me?' I understand that the real question is: 'Why not me?' ... Tragedy strikes so many people, many more meritorious than I, so why not me?"

Rosenwein's columns gave readers of the *New York Jewish Week* a window into the life of a regular suburban mom, one who wrote eloquently on matters as varied as the ancient practice of studying Torah to the carpool to soccer practice. Now readers everywhere will have the same view.

—Jennifer Greenstein Altman

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Dr. Laura Loachim

writes after 10 years that she has three daughters, Julia, Theodore, and Violet, and one son, Andrew. Laura is on leave from her radiology position and lives in New York with her husband, Marty, a dermatopathologist. **Paula Rubenstein Stern**, a writer, received mention in *Arutz Sheva* (Israel-NationalNews.com) last August.

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83 The *National Journal* notes that **Bettina Jones Poirier** received her law

degree from NYU and for nine years worked at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Later she served as minority counsel for the House Energy and Commerce Committee and worked closely with Senator Barbara Boxer on lowering arsenic levels in drinking water and on banning pesticide testing on pregnant women, infants, and children. Bettina is working with Boxer on an environmental agenda emphasizing global warming and efforts to restore environmental protections.

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Miriam Feldblum moved from Caltech to Pomona College as the new vice president

for student affairs and dean of students, along with continuing a faculty appointment as professor of politics.

Susan Friedlander Weisberg shares great news of her four sons—the oldest is now college age. Living in Israel, in Gush Etzion, “their path is quite a bit different than mine was. Dov, the oldest is in his second year of army duty, serving in the education corps. He is an officer, so is only halfway through a four-year tour, and only then will begin to think about college and a career. Elan, son number two, has just finished high school and will start a one-year *mechina*, that is a pre-army program aimed at developing leadership skills and exploring personal growth. My next two, Eli and Chaim, are thankfully still in school and are a lot easier to keep track of.” Susan works in marketing and advertising at Yad Vashem, the The Holocaust Martyrs’ and Heroes’ Remembrance Authority. Her husband of almost 25 years, Larry, is problem solving and troubleshooting for a hi-tech company in Netanya.

Amy Morishima McLeod sends news of an addition to the family. “Bill and I are the proud parents of Robert Yuzuru McLeod. He was born on June 6, 2007, at 8:10 a.m., 7 pounds 2 ounces, 20-inches long. Both his older sisters, Mary and Kelly, are thrilled with him.” Amy went back to work in August and is juggling schedules with her kindergartener, toddler, and infant. She thanks heaven for her wonderful husband.

Deborah Wilen heard from her Barnard roommate **Karen Gornish**

Wilchek, who got in touch as a result of her last update to Class Notes. Karen lives in Ranahan, Israel, with four kids and two dogs. Deborah invited Karen to Jerusalem for her son’s bar mitzvah. She spoke to another beloved Barnard friend, Ronne Jungreis ’83, who’s happily installed in Los Angeles. Like Karen, Ronne has four kids. Deborah enjoys her work as senior vice president of development at Extell Development Co. in Manhattan.

Caroline Brown-Straessle took a trip from Boston to Naples, Fla., and a trip from San Francisco to Denver. She and her family, who are from Switzerland, live in London. In California, she and her family enjoyed the hospitality of her first friend at Barnard, **Maureen Kedes**. Caroline’s daughter, Alexandra, will be applying to colleges in the fall, so she wanted her to see both coasts and the immense possibilities offered to “bright, young women in America.” Caroline’s hoping to locate **Valerie Lavion**.

Jean Minutello-Schneider writes from Brussels, where she has lived for more than four years with her 6-year-old daughter who is in the first grade. Jean would like to hear from alumnae in the area or those who plan to travel to Brussels. She’d love to establish an alumnae club in Belgium.

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Karen Estilo Owczarski and Melissa Front Cain ’90 hosted the inaugural Barnard-in-Washington Alma Maters (Sweet Mothers) event in Falls Church, Va. Alumnae and their children painted pottery and shared a meal. Karen missed **Jessica Kasten** and **Charlotte Kratt Dean** who weren’t able to attend. A spring event is being planned for the Washington-area group and will offer another opportunity for alumnae to get together. Karen will keep us posted.

In September 2007, **Marti Paschal** began work as director of administrative operations and media relations at San Francisco General Hospital Medical Center. She writes that she feels fortunate to be working with smart, kind, dedicated coworkers at an organization in whose mission she believes.

Virginia Perez is a kitchen designer with her own showroom in Coral Gables, Fla. Remarried since 2005, Virginia is in the process of adopting two children from Russia.

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Elizabeth Taddiken Lee, DMD, writes that her daughter, Rose, was born in January

2007. She is adored by her sister, Andrea, 14, and her brother, Alex, 12. Elizabeth hopes to make it to our 25th Reunion.

Beth Wightman forwarded me an excellent article written by **Elizabeth Larsen**, “Did I Steal My Daughter? The Tribulations of Global Adoption,” which appeared in the November/December issue of *Mother Jones*. Elizabeth offers a poignant story of the adoption of her daughter, Flora, and her family’s emotional journey to Guatemala subsequent to connect with Flora’s birth mother.

Congratulations to Rabbi **Jacqueline Tattenbaum Satlow** on her appointment as the director of the Center for Jewish Culture at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.

Jeany Heller writes that she’s working towards completion of her PhD in social welfare policy while she continues to work as director of quality improvement and planning at Community Access, Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to advocacy and support for persons with psychiatric disabilities.

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After eight years on the editorial team at iVillage, **Eileen Livers** embarked on a consulting career as a Web content strategist and editor. She lives on the Upper West Side with her husband, daughter, Dani, 3, and son, Henry, 1.

When **Carol Schiller**'s son, Jacob, was born, "he arrived a champion spitter and graduated to become an accomplished drooler." These attributes drove Carol to invent a yank-proof, waterproof baby bib that would not only work better than anything she could find in stores, but also look attractive (since Jacob had to wear one virtually all day). The result is Baby Chaleco (babychaleco.com), Carol's own company, launched in 2007. The collection of bibs, available online and in baby boutiques, is manufactured in her now home state of Washington in a family-owned factory using only baby-safe fabrics. Carol indicates that things have been hectic, but she's reenergized by her most enthusiastic supporters: her daughters, Ariela, 7, and Talia, 4. Carol would love to hear from alumnae in the baby business.

Thanks to Carol, we also have news about several classmates: **Melissa Rivkin**

lives in Seattle, runs her own ESL school, and devotes a large chunk of her time to volunteering at the Seattle Hebrew Academy, where both her sons are students.

Kathleen Flynn and her husband, Jarek, moved to Brooklyn Heights last year where Carol has been the recipient of their warm hospitality several times.

Sangeetha Madhavan's trip to several parts of Africa over the summer combined both professional and vacation endeavors. Her daughter, Kiran, 4, who was born in South Africa, accompanied her mom on this fantastic summer trip. Carol noted, "Sangeetha has more challenging adventures with small children in tow than most single people ever do on their own, and I am continually amazed at how she does it."

On a recent trip to New York, Carol

spent an evening reminiscing with **Lilly Weitzner Icikson, Mara Kessler Mayer, and Amy Cantor Stampfer**. **Miriam Tuchman**, who is still managing design and construction of hospitals, sent me some details on her project in Rwanda this year. "We are building a school for middle-school-aged girls in a region that is particularly poor and was hard hit by the genocide. In visiting Rwanda [in February 2007] I was so amazed by how much the country and its people have been able to pull together and make some real changes in the daily lives of its citizens after experiencing what has to be the most painful period in their history. There is accessible education and health care for all, new construction, universities, a beautifully clean country. (They banned plastic bags, have one day a month where everyone is obligated to stop what they are doing and help clean up outside for four hours, and once a year they all plant trees given to them by the government.) ... I plan to go back and continue to do more projects there." Back home, Miriam is also getting involved in school as her twins started kindergarten this year.

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Ann Goldhirsh and her husband, Barry Love, welcomed a baby boy on Sept. 24, 2007.

(**Elizabeth**) **Ann Hunkins** has received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to translate *The Indravati Flows On* by Ramesh Vikal. The novelist examines politics and culture in his native Nepal as seen through the villagers of a poor fishing town in the 1970s. Ann, who went to U.C.-Davis after Barnard, has spent time living in Nepal and taught Nepali at Columbia. She and her husband, Prem Darlami, live in Santa Fe, N.M. **Karen Wallace** writes, "I live in rural San Diego County with my husband of 15 years, Jeff Dean (SEAS '91). We have six children so far. We also have

a dairy cow, chickens, a pig, cats, rabbits, and a guinea pig."

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It was great to hear from **Robin Moyer Chung** who moved from Manhattan to Westport, Conn., with her husband, Pierre, and son, Ty, 4.

She's a bookwriter/lyricist and had a reading of her edgy new comedy, *Big Fat Cat*, on Dec. 7, 2007. It starred Bruce Vilanch, Douglas Sills, and Christiane Noll. She's also working on a children's musical for Vital Theatre for production in New York City in March. **Dawn Polizzotti Foster** has been living and working in London for the past two years. She's the director of global product marketing at Burger King. **Rebecca (Becky) Walsh Taee** has been living in London for the past eight years with her husband, Chris, and two children, Nicholas, 4, and Amelia, 1. When Becky was pregnant with Nicholas, she joined a group of expectant mothers for weekly gatherings in Wimbledon. One of the women was Kelly Hannon Brinson '82—four years later she and Becky still meet at least once a week. In February 2007, Becky enjoyed reuniting with **Jennifer Bergstrom**, vice president and publisher at Simon & Schuster, when she was in London on business. The *New York Times* reported the marriage of **Ondine Karady**, an interior designer and set decorator in New York, and James Rutenberg, a correspondent in the Washington bureau of the *New York Times*. According to the article, from 2002–04, Ondine was a set decorator for *Sex and the City*, and also did set decoration for *Along Came Polly*, *25th Hour*, and *Requiem for a Dream*.

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Erika Woodside Vestergaard lives in Walnut Creek, Calif., with her husband, Andy, and their children, Alan and Ava.

She's been in the social-work field for 13 years and is a licensed social worker primarily with the developmentally disabled and their families. She loves spending her free time with her family and admits to enjoying her 6-year-olds' baseball games in addition to biking, reading, and exploring Northern California. **Amanda Sutphin** reports that she and her husband, Andy Jones, had a daughter, Amelia Sutphin Jones, on July 24, 2007. Amanda is taking some time off to enjoy those precious moments with her daughter before returning to work as director of archaeology at the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission. If you Google **Elana James** you'll learn that she lives in Austin, Texas. She has an amazing career playing violin and singing with legendary performers like Bob Dylan and Willie Nelson. In July 2007 she released her self-titled debut album, which incorporates traditional western standards, swing jazz, and original alternative American pop.

I'm very excited to announce that **Anne Farrar Hayes** and her husband, Nikko, welcomed their second daughter, Annabelle Gibson Hayes, on May 2, 2007. **Sarah Brown** writes that she's married and living in Kittery, Maine, with her daughters Daria, 8, Auden, 6, and Claire, 3. Sarah loves being a stay-at-home mom. She's very involved in local politics and is running an environmental committee engaged in reducing residents' and businesses' carbon emissions. Sarah also operates a community activism group that advocates for progressive social and political change locally. She has lived in Kittery for the past eight years. Before that, she was a journalist in Russia for five years, where she used her knowledge as a Russian studies major. Sarah is in contact with **Deborah Levitzky**, who lives in Westport, Conn., and is an educational consultant for children all over the country, and with **Fabienne Bouville**, who lives in Los Angeles and is a successful filmmaker. **Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni**, a mother and attorney, was interviewed by *Jewish Week* regarding Iranian president Ahmadinejad's appearance at Columbia. She was born in the United States but her parents and husband are from Iran. Rebecca believes

that Ahmadinejad is "crafty, shrewd, and dangerous." What would Columbia be without a little controversy?

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93 **Jessica Shaw**, a senior writer for *Entertainment Weekly*, and her husband, Steve Levin, welcomed their daughter, Maia Henri, last May. **Francine Bard Fabricant** and her husband, Ken, provided a little sister, Rebecca Ivey, for their 3-year-old daughter, Lindsay. Francine still works as a career counselor in private practice and lives in Long Island. **Sherlet Kurian** and her husband, Vinu, gave their daughter, Maya, a little sibling. And **Sue Stitt** and her husband, Matt Rogers, had their second child as well. **Sari Harlow Ciment** is a busy stay-at-home mom in Los Angeles, where she lives with her husband, Jason, and their four children (three girls and one boy). **Nancy Garcia-Ruffin** married her husband, Lance, in 2000, received her doctorate in clinical psychology in 2003, and started a private practice in Brooklyn. They have added to their family by adopting Nancy's 15-year-old nephew. **Sun Min Schultz** and her husband, Edan Jon Schultz, live in Crainville, Ill., where Sun is the chief marketing officer for the SIU College of Business. **Sarah Coles McKeown**, a resident of Brooklyn, graduated from the Pacific College of Oriental Medicine with a master's in traditional oriental medicine and opened up her own acupuncture/Chinese medicine practice in Manhattan. **Elicia Lisk Blumberg** is working on international development programs in the environmental sector at Tetra Tech Inc. in Washington, D.C., after returning from the Peace Corps with her husband, Jeff. **Debra Markowitz** and her family, including her

daughters, Batya and Rena, moved to Bala-Cynwyd, Pa. **Karen Rosenbaum** returned to New York after completing a fellowship in forensic psychiatry in Los Angeles last year. While there, Karen reunited with alumnae through the Barnard Club of Los Angeles. In New York, she's an attending psychiatrist at Albert Einstein College of Medicine at Bronx-Lebanon Hospital, and as a forensic evaluator for the Bronx mental health court.

I started a job last September with New Visions for Public Schools, where I work providing professional development for public high school science teachers throughout New York City. I'm enjoying it a lot and am glad to be in a position to help teachers on a broad scale.

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94 **Kate Dubose Tomassi** and her husband, Peter Tomassi (CC '91), welcomed their first child, Matilda "Tillie" Marshall, at 7:38 p.m., on Aug. 24, 2007. She was 7 pounds, 7 ounces, and 20-inches long. Kate is a freelance writer now that she's put her law career on hold indefinitely. In 2005 she got her master's in journalism at Columbia.

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95 **Liza Cohen** married Andrew Albert Gates on Sept. 1, 2007, in Boston. She's vice president and a director at Digitas, a digital and direct media agency in Boston. She's also a member of the New England regional board of the Anti-Defamation League. **Mouraneth (Raneth) Yok Heng** writes that she works in La Jolla, Calif., at the Scripps Center for Integrative Medicine, acting as a consultant. She's

also working on a two-year online fellowship in integrative medicine through the University of Arizona's program. She and her husband, Veasna, welcomed their son, Dara, in June 2007. He joins his 3-year-old sister, Ani. Raneth and Veasna celebrated their 12th wedding anniversary last summer. I caught up with **Jocelyn Rubin** via e-mail through an online networking site. She writes that she's working on a master's in global public health at New York University. In April she welcomed her son, Augustus, into the world; they're calling him Gus.

Carmencita San Miguel Roche moved back to New York City from Canberra, Australia, in September with her husband, Declan, and son, Oscar, 1. I started law school at Southwestern University School of Law in Los Angeles in August.

—GBK

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96 We were happy to hear that **Shelby L. Aikins** received a master's of business administration from the Goizueta Business School of Emory University last May.

Vicki Hewitt is the new program director at the Institute for Law and Economics at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. She replaced Bonnie Clause '64. Vicki also works with Anna Gavin '00 who is the faculty events planner at the law school. They discovered their Barnard connection after reading Class Notes and comparing experiences.

Renee Sagiv Riebling works part-time for the Clinton Foundation. Last March she attended the wedding of **Victoria Remolina**. In other wedding news, we read in the *New York Times* that **Arpita H. Patel** married Salil Satyan Pitroda in August. She graduated from New York Medical College and is an

endocrinologist.

Janine Utell writes that she's working on a book-length study of adultery in James Joyce's fiction and is on the tenure track in the English department at Widener University, Chester, Pa. We're sorry to report that **Mona Osman** passed away last June from diabetes.

—SF

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97 **Heather Bartlett Casparis**, who moved to Lausanne, Switzerland, started working as a retina specialist at the Jules Gonin Eye Hospital. She's married to Luca Casparis (CC '97) and would love to hear from Lausanne- or Geneva-area alumnae.

Ester Agas has lived in Sydney, Australia, for the past four years, working in corporate finance at Deutsche Bank. She married her Australian partner, Derek Mansfield, in March at a garden wedding in Melbourne. They honeymooned in tropical north Queensland, and took a three-week backpacking tour of China in October.

Debra Katz spent last winter in India working with a microfinance group (providing small loans to poor women to start businesses). This past semester she started at the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia. In 2000, she married Yechiel Newman, who she met in Central Park.

Amanda Packard took a three-week vacation to Germany and France last summer, and moved from Pennsylvania to Connecticut, where she now teaches seventh-grade English at the Fairfield Woods Middle School.

Elizabeth Githens works in training and development at Goldman Sachs. Her expertise is in culture and orienta-

tion, which matches well with her graduate degree in international relations and international economics from the Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins.

Megan Watkins married Christopher Abad in January. Her first-year Barnard roommate, **Peggy Kauh**, was the maid of honor. Megan is a vice president in the philanthropic services group at JPMorgan Private Bank in New York.

Jennifer Morrill is the press secretary to the Mayor of Jersey City. She married Leonard Franco, Sr., on Aug. 18, 2007. They have two children Olivia Grace, 2, and Veronica Pilar, 1. **Kysa Nygreen** married Arindrajit Dube on Aug. 11, 2007; they live in Oakland, Calif. Kysa received her PhD in education from Berkeley in 2005 and held a U.C. President's Postdoctoral Fellowship from 2005–07. In the fall she started as an assistant professor at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Video editor **Elizabeth Winter** married her long-time love, Michael DePaul, on July 7. They live in San Francisco. A few years ago she founded The Ink Well (inkwell.wordpress.com), a volunteer drawing group for New York City-area children in need. She writes, "We're always interested in finding new artists to come draw with us so please feel free to e-mail me." Elizabeth is starting a San Francisco branch as well.

Renata Osinovskaya is a dentist in private practice. She lives with her husband, Peter Velednitskii, and their daughter, Madison Tovah, 2. The family bought a house in Bethesda, Md.

Alexis Del Campo Eyler has been married to her high school sweetheart, Craig (CC '96), for 10 years. They live in Evanston, Ill., with their sons, Dylan, 3, and Lucas, 2. She runs a community house in the north suburbs and serves on the board of The Harbour, Inc., a non-profit group that provides housing and services to homeless, abused, neglected, and runaway adolescent girls.

Nicole Crisci Harris welcomed Charlotte Margaux into the world, two weeks late, on Oct. 20, 2007.

Cherith Bailey Velez, our class president, and her husband, Ray, celebrated their first wedding anniversary in July by seeing *Rage Against the Machine* on Randall's Island. At reunion she caught up with **Ahna M. Blutreich**, Dana

Byrne, Alison Cross, Joey Kaiser, Jasminee Persaud, Patricia Riordan, Johanna Voolich Wright, and others.

My husband, Nick, and I bought a condo in Cambridge, Mass., in May. We love it more every day and are most happy to finally have a parking space.

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Congratulations to several classmates who were married last year. **Helen Harrison**

married Jeffrey Miner in April. Helen received her master's of business administration from New York University. She's the senior manager in corporate planning at Biogen Idec in Cambridge, Mass. Her husband graduated from Hobart College and the Cambridge School of Culinary Arts and works as a sauté chef. The couple live in Weymouth, Mass. Dr.

Susan Kovsky wed Simeon Wallis in July. Susan received a medical degree from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Medical School for International Health in Beer Sheva, Israel. Susan has a fellowship in rheumatology at the University of Michigan. Her husband is a research analyst with Evercore Asset Management, an investment firm in Manhattan. Dr. **Elena del**

Busto married Dr. Frederick Stoddard in September. Elena earned her medical degree from Drexel College of Medicine, Philadelphia. She's a psychiatric resident with Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia. Elena's husband earned his medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine and is pursuing a doctoral degree in molecular pathobiology at Drexel University. They live in Philadelphia. **Kiersten**

Elizabeth Jennings, who teaches eighth-grade science at the School at Columbia University, married Sumin Chou, a graduate of Oberlin College and designer of interactive Web sites. Elizabeth received a master's degree in

secondary education from Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn. **Venezia Michalsen**

writes, "I got married in May 2005 to Jorge Fernandez, a social worker who now works for the Vera Institute of Justice. We live in Park Slope, Brooklyn. I finished my PhD in criminal justice in May 2007, and I am continuing my work as the director of analysis and client information systems at the Women's Prison Association." Making her mark in academia and writing is **Veronica Schanoes** who writes: "This past May, I graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a PhD in English. Before leaving Penn, I received an award for excellent teaching by a graduate student. I was fortunate enough to find my dream job, and am now an assistant professor of English at Queens College-CUNY. I am very happy—and grateful to Professor Anne Prescott of Barnard's English department. She has been a wonderful mentor, the woman who convinced me that becoming an English professor was the right path for me. As a writer, I have stories in two anthologies, *Interfictions* and *The Best of Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*."

Elisa Choukroun Miller writes: "In June, 2006, I finished my master's in information systems at Drexel University in Philadelphia. After working at a tiny IT consulting firm for almost six years, focusing on nonprofit organizations, I recently took a new position as a business analyst at CIBER, Inc., a much larger system-integration consultancy working with Fortune 500 companies and government clients." Elise and her husband, Ari, celebrated their eighth anniversary this year. They have two daughters, Pearl, 4, and Sasha, 8 months. They live just outside Philadelphia, and Ari works in real estate for a large bank.

Having received a master's in the history of art from the University of London some years back, I decided to complement my art-history studies with a second master's in art and art education, which I earned last May from Teachers College. I focused on museum studies and wrote my thesis on the interpretation of Liverpool's role in transatlantic slavery at the Merseyside Maritime Museum. I'm pursuing a career in museum education and began

doing peer reviews for *Museums & Social Issues: A Journal of Reflective Discourse*.

Stephanie Shestakow

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99

Keisha Knight is the recipient of a full summer grant from The Public Interest Law Association, a student group of the University of Washington Law School. Last summer, she worked at The Children's Foundation in Kenya.

Katherine Bittinger lives in Washington, D.C., and works at the U.S. Government Accounting Office.

Congratulations to **Avery M. Matthews**, who married Donald Willard DeVore Jr., last July in Philadelphia. Avery is a candidate for a medical degree and a PhD in microbiology at New York University, from which she received a master's degree in microbiology. Her husband is a guitarist and bassist with Hi-Soft, a rock band based in Philadelphia. He's also an independent booking agent with Luna Lounge and Relevant Group, an event production company. I'm a managing director at CPI, a global investment professional recruiting firm specializing in placing individuals and teams into private equity firms and hedge funds.

Jenny Lee

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Nicole Dirks writes, "About three years ago I moved to Valparaiso, Chile, with my then boyfriend, Jose. Since moving here, we have gotten married and opened a vegetarian restaurant and bar—called epif—in the first floor of our home, which dates from 1906 and which we share with our two kitties, mews and urri. The restaurant, epif, just celebrated its one year anniversary."

Phoebe Damrosch-Williams just finished a book about her experiences

waiting tables at the exclusive Manhattan restaurant Per Se. In a *Publishers Weekly* interview, Phoebe said, "At a Barnard College writer's conference, I heard the agent Molly Friedrich speak—she was so powerful I thought: I want this woman on my side! She passed my idea to [agent] Paul Cirone, and by the end of [my] conversation [with him,] he had sold me on writing the book."

Alanna Toll is an associate veterinarian in Riverdale, N.Y., after completing an internship in small animal medicine and surgery in Manhattan.

Dianne Yang has been practicing real estate law for the past four years in a big law firm in New York City. Currently, she's on assignment for a client of the firm and, as a result, has been living and working in Hong Kong. She says she got a 'Shorkie' puppy (it's a Shih Tzu/Yorkie Hybrid), "who I adore."

Pema Dolma Gutman is married, has a daughter, and is a trading assistant for a quantitative trading group. "I still keep in touch with my best friend from Barnard and my Columbia graduate school Buddhist friends/ex-classmates. If Barnard people want to call me for advice or to stay over when they come to Manhattan, they are welcome to contact me." I have Pema's phone number, so e-mail or call me for the information.

Ashley Reis joined the wealth management firm, Boys, Arnold & Company, as the office administrator in the firm's Asheville office. Before that, Ashley spent three years in sales and marketing in western North Carolina and upstate South Carolina, and completed a two-year financial analyst program in a major Wall Street firm's investment banking and equity research divisions.

Pamela Gourley has spent the past few years teaching early elementary grades at the International School of Frankfurt where her colleagues have described her as "thoughtful, kind, and innovative."

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01 Congratulations go to several classmates. **Patricia Baca** and Chris McGherin were

More Than Mirth on Her Mind

Chelsea Peretti '00

Chelsea Peretti isn't here to make you like her. Anointed the "queen of the ever-growing downtown comedy scene" by the *New York Observer*, the fans who attend her live stand-up shows, watch her addictive Web shorts, and follow her exploits on her eponymous blog aren't looking for a friend. They're looking for the signature mix of subversive and sweet, charming and caustic that has garnered this young comic international media attention and caused her to rise to the top of New York's comedy heap.

Growing up in California's Bay Area, she received classical training at American Conservatory Theater's Young Conservatory in San Francisco and considered continuing in that vein until professional actors persuaded her that a well-rounded education would serve her better. She didn't see herself as a comic back then, preferring to play characters like Gertrude in *Hamlet*. "I loved that high-drama kind of role," she says. "I guess I was pretty drawn to the dark—I mean, that's what my stand-up is like, too."

In her sophomore year of college a friend signed Peretti up for Columbia's improv team, Six Milks, which she found more engaging than the straight theatre she was taking. It wasn't until she'd graduated that she tried stand-up. But she soon tired of the formula: PowerPoint presentations, diary entries, readings from found scraps are all examples she gives of "the alternative scene's version of airplane jokes." Eschewing pandering quirk, Peretti remembers the performance when she decided to change her relationship with the audience for good. "Going into it I felt like I was breaking up with them. It was like: I'm not going to be the person that I was. I'm not here to be charming and have everyone think I'm witty. I'm here because I want to say something; I want to connect on a deeper level."

One way she's found to connect is through the Internet. She and three friends from the comedy scene host a monthly live show called Variety Shac, and they created a series of popular Web shorts that have won them fans across the planet—as well as a development deal with Adult Swim on Cartoon Network. Peretti has her own series with SuperDeluxe.com, including her most recent, "All My Exes," and prior to that, her satirical Web site blackpeopleloveus.com was featured on both *Good Morning America* and BET. The most interesting postings on that site are the letters from visitors, most of whom are unsure whether they should be enraged or delighted with what the site offers.

That kind of unease seems to suit Peretti just fine. "It doesn't feel as much like putting on a mask and dancing. Otherwise," she says, "what is the point of doing this?"

—Jean-Michele Gregory

married on Nov. 3, 2007. In attendance were **Veronica Alvarez, Marsha Corchado, Kathie Szabocsik, Migna Taveras**, and me.

Bitou Fofana Cissé and her husband celebrated their daughter's second birthday.

Alison Joseph married Matt Kirschen on Labor Day weekend. They live in Palo Alto, Calif. Alison is a doctoral student at UC Berkeley studying the Hebrew bible. **Mollie Gilbert**, Rabbi Ilana



Garber '00, **Becky Cole Lurie**, Adam Lurie (SEAS '02), Yoni and Jessica Rezak Schwab (GS '00), Rachel Pross Siegel '02, and Ariel Simon (GS '01) celebrated with them.

Kathleen A. Roosevelt married Jeffrey Thomas Walker on Aug. 19, 2007, at Arlington Street Church in Boston. Kathleen received a master's of public health in epidemiology from Columbia last May. She works at the Boston laboratory of the Massachusetts

Department of Public Health.

Sonya Dewan was married on Sept. 15, 2007. She's an attorney in the enforcement division of the New York Stock Exchange.

Megan Rose Stack married Matthew Wishnow on Sept. 2, 2007, at Riverside Farm in the Pittsfield, Vt., Zeke Church. Megan is a manager of public relations at Coach, and Matthew is a founder and the president of Insound.com, an online music retailer, and Drillteam, a marketing consulting company.

Megan Millenky reports that **Hallie Schneir** caught the campaign bug a few years ago and is working for Senator Obama as regional field director in Cedar Rapids/Iowa City, Iowa. **Ali Bloch** just finished year one of a joint MBA MPH program at UC-Berkeley. As part of a fellowship, she spent the early summer in Uganda exploring opportunities for information and communication technologies in the health sector and is now interning in the corporate strategy and business development group at McKesson in San Francisco. Megan finished a master's of public policy at Georgetown and moved to New York. She works for MDRC, a social policy research organization.

Zpora Perry started a master's of social work program at Smith College last summer. She had deferred for a year to do intensive chemotherapy for non-Hodgkins lymphoma. She's glad to be healthy.

Selena Ahmed sends greetings from Yunnan, China. She's pursuing doctoral studies in biology, carrying out ethnobotanical and phytochemical research on resources from traditional tea agro-forestry systems and wild tea populations of Yunnan Province, China.

Bangbay Siboliban moved to Los Angeles last summer after living in Austin, Texas, for three years. She's a multimedia projectionist on a play called *Cesar and Ruben*, written and directed by Ed Begley, Jr., which is a musical about the life of Cesar Chavez. She's also working in the editorial department for Orson Welles' "lost" film, *The Other Side of the Wind*, which was the last film he worked on. He died before completing it. "I've also been involved in video production for TeAda Productions, a Los Angeles organization promoting artists of color. I

keep in touch with Veronica Liu '02, and under her hire, I provide graphic design services to Fractious Press and Seven Stories Press."

Mary Nazzal is a barrister and member of the bar of England and Wales. She campaigns alongside several human rights groups for Palestinian rights. Mary and Aysar, her husband of five years, have moved to Jordan and would love Barnard friends to visit.

Jyoti Menon married Antosh Sekar (SEAS '01) on May 27, 2007, at the Pierre Hotel in New York with 400 friends and family from around the world. The bridesmaids were **Jennifer Lee, Rachel Moy, and Sharon Nortman**.

In attendance from Barnard were **Pooja Badlani, Rupa Banik, Shuchi Batra, Archana Minnal**, Maliha Mustafa '04, **Tipyamol Niyomchai Ulicny**, Vaihari Patel '02, **Mita Sanghavi**, President Judith Shapiro, Neenu Sharma '02, and **Aimee Sklar**. They went on a mini-honeymoon to the Mayan Riviera in Mexico, and then traveled to New Zealand and Australia for a full honeymoon. Santosh is in his second year at Columbia Business School. Jyoti is a senior manager at American Express.

Tipyamol was married last August in Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich. The bridesmaids were Rachel Moy and Aimee Sklar. Guests included Shuchi Batra and Jyoti Menon. Since finishing graduate school, she's been working as a market research associate and living with her husband, Jim Ulicny, in midtown Manhattan.

Hadas Kushnir is in Tanzania completing field research for her PhD in conservation biology at the University of Minnesota. She's researching the environmental and human factors responsible for lion attacks on humans in southeastern Tanzania, which has had repeated problems with attacks.

Samantha Reeb-Wilson was promoted last April to account supervisor on the IBM business at Ogilvy & Mather. She also plays softball for the company team and won the game ball for making a perfect slide into third base and for hitting two doubles.

Rachel Kahn-Troster is in her last year of rabbinical studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary and working as associate director of education and

outreach for Rabbis for Human Rights, North America.

Anna Ayzenberg graduated last May with a master's in school psychology from Columbia. She is a school psychologist in Bergen County, N.J.

Margo Averbook Rosman, her husband, Jonathan, and their 4-year-old daughter, Gabriella, moved to Bergenfield, N.J., from Manhattan and welcomed a baby boy, Avi Moshe Rosman, on Aug. 22, 2006. She enjoys being a stay-at-home mom.

Omaira Soriano started graduate studies at SIPA after spending a summer in South Africa.

Erinn Smart

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5th Reunion May 29 – June 1, 2008

Danielle Tuller
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returned from two years in Bogotá, Colombia, where she was working with the Pan-American Health Organization and Give to Colombia. She has started her master's degree at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health.

After three years at the *New York Times*, **Lillian Koppel** spent the past year writing a book, *The Red Leather Diary*, which will be published by HarperCollins in April 2008. For a preview, go to nytimes.com/koppel.

For two and a half years, **Emily Weiner** has been a staff writer and the listings editor for *Time Out New York's Art* section. She left *Time Out* to work for the School of Visual Arts' brand-new master of design criticism program—the first one in the country—which will welcome its first class of students next September. Emily will be the assistant to the chair, helping to put together the curriculum, the student base, and the faculty (which will include NPR's Kurt Anderson, MoMA curator Paola Antonelli, and some prominent design critics like *ID* magazine's editor-in-chief, Julie Lasky).

Erin McConnell left New York for Philadelphia, where she and her boyfriend, Avi, bought their first house.

Erin's a paralegal in a large law firm in Philadelphia. She enjoys the slower pace of life there.

Jaclene L. D'Agostino married William David Brunner last July at St. Joseph's Church in Garden City, N.Y. The bride and groom met at Columbia. Jaclene is an associate in the Uniondale, N.Y., office of Farrell Fritz, a law firm; she practices in the estate-litigation group. She received her law degree from St. John's University.

Adele Ho married Robert Y. Lee in September in New York. Adele is an associate in the finance and real estate group in the Manhattan office of Dechert, a Philadelphia-based firm. She received her law degree from George Washington University.

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1st Reunion May 29 – June 1, 2008

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Eleanor (Ellie) Tripp traveled from Nova Scotia to the Virgin Islands as a professional sailor. **Mary (Lisa) Lomax** is working in HIV prevention with the United Nation's World Food Program in Panama City. **Julia Turshen** is working on a new PBS show called *Spain ... on the Road Again*, starring Gwyneth Paltrow, Mario Batali, and others. She says, "It's an amazing experience full of food, history, and sleeplessness." **Jennifer Wyse** spent a month in Australia as a lone traveler experiencing hostels, the Great Barrier Reef, and her first time on a surfboard. She met with **Samara Rudolph** in Melbourne. Now Jenn is an intern and domestic-violence-shelter advocate on a reservation in South Dakota.

Lala Wu works at goodsearch.com, a search engine that donates a penny per

search to the charity, school, or college organization of the user's choice. She encourages everyone to use it and support a cause. **Karisa Chappell** works at a Web 2.0 sports video startup that is beta-testing at andome.com.

Charlotte Joseph is at Berkeley in a postbaccalaureate premed program and working in the research unit of the AIDS Health Project. **Syndie Mosley**, earning her master's of fine art in dance, with a focus on choreography, at the University of Iowa, reports she's "faring well in the town amongst the cornfields." **Aylin Gezgin** is in her first year at UMDNJ-NJ Dental School in Newark, N.J. In her Newark apartment near the school, Aylin is "trying to get adjusted to the new environment and the rigorous workload." **Marilyn Rincon** is studying for her master's in childhood education with a bilingual extension at Lehman College and teaching in a public school in addition to tutoring at Champion Learning

In Memoriam

| | | | |
|------|--|------|--|
| 1923 | Anita Smith Appel, June 10, 2002 | 1942 | Enid Pugh Beecham, May 7, 2006 |
| 1927 | Mafalda Gianotti Buhler, Nov. 18, 2007 | 1944 | Charlotte McKenzie, July 12, 2007 |
| | Mildred Lyman Hall, Jan. 1, 2007 | | Elizabeth Lewis Pearson, Nov. 24, 2007 |
| | Elizabeth Gould Neff, March 26, 2007 | | Marguerite Gianotti Rossetto, Sept. 21, 2005 |
| | Irma Rittenhouse Withers, Jan. 1, 1994 | 1945 | June Kaley, Sept. 8, 2007 |
| 1929 | Ruth Rablen Franzen, May 8, 2006 | 1946 | Frances Lanza Bernard, Sept. 1, 2007 |
| 1931 | Alice Niederer, Jan. 1, 2007 | 1947 | Rita Girolamo Leone, Sept. 8, 2007 |
| 1932 | Virginia Conforte Eidenmuller, June 23, 2007 | 1948 | Audrey Walker Perkins, Oct. 2, 2007 |
| 1933 | Victoria Kearney, Nov. 13, 2007 | 1949 | Shirley Miller Knowles, Oct. 25, 2007 |
| | Ruth Korwan, Nov. 14, 2007 | 1950 | Joan Norton, Jan. 13, 2006 |
| 1934 | Clarice Stein Smithline, Aug. 20, 2007 | 1951 | Beverly Beck Fuchs, Oct. 17, 2007 |
| 1935 | Agnes Creagh, Oct. 23, 2007 | 1952 | Bertie Frankenhuis Argyris, Sept. 11, 2007 |
| | Mildred Wells Hughes, Oct. 1, 2006 | 1955 | Doris Berger Berkstresser, Oct. 26, 2007 |
| 1936 | Elizabeth Maier Blackert, Aug. 4, 2007 | | Henriette Doll De Vitry, June, 2, 2007 |
| 1937 | Margaret Geoghegan McCutcheon, Feb. 15, 2007 | | Sydney Rice Katzenelson, Sept. 2, 2005 |
| 1938 | Sofia Simmonds Fruton, July 27, 2007 | 1956 | Alice Kirman Gerb, Sept. 1, 2007 |
| | Henrietta Gerken Giannino, Nov. 27, 2006 | 1957 | Charlotte Boyer Parkinson, Sept. 25, 2007 |
| | Doris Milman, Oct. 26, 2007 | 1958 | Barbara Milton Andrews, Oct. 8, 2007 |
| 1939 | Jacqueline Barasch Schneider, Oct. 17, 2007 | 1963 | Sheila Ravitch Gitlitz, Nov. 16, 2007 |
| 1940 | Marie Sayre Beekman, Nov. 21, 2007 | 1965 | Sarah Wernick, Nov. 6, 2007 |
| | Olive Holmes Blum, Oct. 19, 2007 | 1973 | Randall Watson Forsberg, Oct. 19, 2007 |
| | Barbara Eshleman Hitt, Oct. 12, 2007 | 1983 | Polly Fahnstock, Oct. 1, 2007 |
| | Jane Mantell Otten, Oct. 9, 2007 | 1985 | Jennifer Beckett, Oct. 1, 2007 |
| 1941 | Ruth Taubenhaus Gross, Oct. 16, 2007 | 1985 | Alexandra Arrowsmith, April 27, 2007 |
| | Anne Halsey Roberts, Aug. 21, 2007 | 1987 | Sara Zolondek, Nov. 30, 2007 |

Center. She celebrated her second anniversary in May.

Susanne Johnson moved to Philadelphia to work at the Hospital at the University of Pennsylvania as the executive assistant to the associate chief of nursing. With the spare time she never had at Barnard, she has taken up kickball. **Elizabeth Eaton** works in recruiting at Citi (formerly Citigroup) and is considering graduate school. **Maria Tarasyuk** is a research associate at Nera Economic Consulting. **Jane Cooper** is a program coordinator at Social Justice Initiatives at the Columbia Law School. Jane, Masha, and I enjoy exploring Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn.

Ariel Poster's professed "reluctance to choose a career path" led her to create a bag company, Bonna Bag (bonnabag.blogspot.com). She paints original abstract artwork on recycled cotton canvas. Enviro-Tote, a woman-owned, fair-labor business factory, assembles the bags, which Ariel sells at vendor fairs in New York.

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Obituaries

Helen Hazard Bacon, professor of classics from 1961–89 and former department chair, died at the age of 88 on Nov. 9, 2007, at her home in Williamsburg, Mass.

Bacon received her bachelor's and PhD from Bryn Mawr and did graduate work at Berkeley and Harvard. After enlisting in the Navy as a cryptographer, she taught at Woman's College in Greensboro, North Carolina, and at Smith College before coming to Barnard. She fostered the tradition of the Barnard Greek or Latin play, which continues to this day. In addition to teaching graduate courses at Columbia and the Bread Loaf School, Bacon served as visiting professor at Harvard University and Hampshire College and was a visiting research fellow at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. A published author, she was a recipient of the

David Burres Award for Civil Liberties from the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts. She was a director and later president of the American Philological Association. She is survived by two sisters and their children.

Randall Watson Forsberg '65

Randall Watson Forsberg, 64, died at Bronx Hospital on Oct. 19, 2007, as a result of cancer. Forsberg taught English before marrying Gunnar Forsberg and moving to Stockholm. There, as a typist at a peace institute, Randall began studying nuclear proliferation. Forsberg received her PhD in arms control from M.I.T., and opened the Institute for Defense and Disarmament Studies, in Brookline. She is credited with creating the concept of a nuclear freeze. A recipient of a genius award from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, she was appointed to President Bill Clinton's Director's Advisory Committee of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and was the first Anne and Bernard Spitzer chair in political science at City College in New York. Forsberg received more than 22,000 votes as a write-in candidate in 2002 when she challenged Sen. Kerry of Massachusetts in protest of his vote authorizing military action against Iraq. She is survived by her mother, her sister, and her daughter.

Charlotte Rita McKenzie '44

Sister Joseph of Jesus Mary passed away on July 12, 2007, at the age of 83. The following is an excerpt of a rememberance of Sister Joseph sent by the Carmelite Monastery of Terre Haute, Ind.: "Whimsical poet, yet prioress and novice mistress, dancing with nature, and yet carrying the sorrows of the world, such was our beloved Sister Joseph of Jesus Mary—child at heart, master of comedy, lover of Scripture, ever looking for the good in others. Our last foundress to go home to God, she was known and loved far beyond our own community through the letters she wrote and the work she did for the Saint Teresa Association, though she herself always remained and wanted to be a hidden soul, or a clam of Cape Cod, where her story began."

"McKenzie entered the Carmel of Terre

Haute on Nov. 15, 1947, made her first profession on May 4, 1949, and received the black veil of a finally professed Carmelite Nun on May 4, 1952. Our Sister saw the good in each person, and wanted to build on that good. Her spirit of gratitude was amazing."

Elspeth Davies Rostow '38

On Dec. 9, 2007, former dean and Stiles Professor Emerita in American studies and professor of government at the University of Texas's Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, Elspeth Davies Rostow died as a result of a heart attack.

Rostow was an expert on national politics and U.S. foreign policy. She served as dean of the UT Austin division of general and comparative studies, and taught at Barnard, MIT, and Georgetown. Besides serving on presidential advisory committees in the 1980s, Rostow was appointed to the board of the U.S. Institute of Peace, which she later chaired. Rostow was a trustee of both the Southern Center for International Studies and the National Academy of Public Administration. She lectured worldwide under the Fulbright program and the U.S. Information Agency. She is survived by two children, one daughter-in-law, one granddaughter, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Moving?

Send name, telephone, address and e-mail address changes and updated employment information to: Alumnae Records, Barnard College, Box AS, 3009 Broadway, New York, NY 10027-6598 Fax: 212.854.1699. You can also submit updates online at www.barnard.edu/alum by clicking on "Keeping in Touch" and "Alumnae Online Records Form."

Honoring a Daughter's Legacy

In the words of a young woman she taught and inspired at Stern College, Yeshiva University, Lana Schwebel '92 always urged her students to “live life to its fullest—take challenges, learn new things, explore the world.” Another Yeshiva student describes the professor of English and Latin as “the most vibrant person I have ever encountered,” one whose “brilliant mind elucidated and made meaningful otherwise foreign texts,” and who “lived the smartest life I knew of.”

That brilliant life came to a sudden, tragic end on July 7, 2007, in a car accident in southern Siberia. Schwebel was a passenger in a van touring the shores of Lake Baikal. She had visited Moscow and St. Petersburg, and was planning to board the Trans-Siberian Railroad for Mongolia and Beijing. The only consolation to her bereft family, friends, students, and colleagues was that in her final days, Schwebel was engaged in a cherished pursuit—traveling to places she'd never been, meeting new people, and immersing herself in new cultures.

“Lana started young, traveling with her parents,” says Marianne Gorlyn '92, who met Schwebel during their first week at Barnard, discovered a shared penchant for fast talking and sarcastic humor, and from then on had an irreplaceable best friend. “If she knew there was one famous painting in a hole-in-the-wall museum somewhere, she'd make her way to that museum. When she taught at Yale, she accompanied grad students to Mexico and Scandinavia, and she was going to Paris with Stern students this summer.”

Upon receiving the terrible news, Schwebel's students and colleagues found an immediate way to share their sorrow and tributes on an Internet site, *Dr. Lana Schwebel's Blue Blog: A Place to Remember a Woman Who Was Truly “the Best of Everybody.”* One blog contributor was Carolyn Sharp, an associate professor at Yale Divinity School, who had worked with Schwebel before her colleague's move to Yeshiva University in 2006. In an entry titled *Go and Do Likewise*, Sharp praises Schwebel's embrace of diverse peoples, customs, and beliefs—including her scholarly focus on the Christian theology that runs through Medieval literature, which Schwebel pursued while maintaining a profound personal commitment to Orthodox Judaism. Sharp writes, “One of the things most captivating about Lana was the effervescent way in which she gave herself over to fascination with people and other cultures, on the one hand, and a life of deep faithfulness, on the other.”

Schwebel's family has found the perfect way to honor her legacy of limitless learning through faraway travel, and to enable future generations of bright young women to “go and do likewise.” At Barnard, where both Lana and her mother were educated, Lilly Spiegel Schwebel '56 and Philip Schwebel have



Lana Schwebel '92 at her 15th Reunion, June 2007

endowed the Lana Schwebel '92 Memorial Fund for Faculty and Student Research Abroad. Provost Elizabeth Boylan says that by covering costs and work stipends for students who accompany professors doing overseas research, this innovative fund will better enable the College to both “internationalize” the undergraduate experience and enhance the faculty’s research productivity.

When Gorlyn learned of the Schwebels' gift to Barnard, she imagined how much her friend would appreciate its reflection of her life and ideals. In addition to loving travel and teaching, Gorlyn says, “Lana loved Barnard.” Schwebel spent a semester abroad at Reid Hall in Paris, Gorlyn says, but the only trip the two friends ever took together was to a less cosmopolitan spot. Craving warm weather during their sophomore year, joined by classmate Miera Harris '92, they found what Gorlyn describes as an “amazing deal” on this side of the Atlantic.

“We went to Disney World,” Gorlyn says with a laugh.

Thanks to the Schwebel family, future Barnard students will have more edifying options during their winter break. Those students will become living, lasting testaments to an exceptional woman’s passions, achievements, and beliefs.

An Intrepid Traveler, A Lifelong Teacher



Lucyle Hook as May Queen, Texas Woman's University, 1921.

Lucyle Hook's major passions—travel, teaching, and theatre—found expression through a commitment to sharing her knowledge and experiences, and her support of future generations of students. Upon her death, in 2003 at the age of 102, Hook's desire to give back to Barnard was fully realized with the creation of the Lucyle Hook Chair in English, setting her legacy for future generations.

Professor Kim F. Hall, a specialist in Renaissance studies, is the first professor to hold the chair, which she assumed at the time of her tenure last fall. (Hall also is director of the College's program in Africana studies, the 15th anniversary of which will be celebrated this spring.) Beyond overlapping scholarly interests, Hall shares a kinship with Hook in their love of international travel and dedication to women's studies. Indeed, Hall has acknowledged Hook's "formidable presence" while at Barnard, saying, "I only hope I can be half as accomplished as Lucyle Hook."

Hook was an intrepid traveler from the early days of her marriage to musicologist Fred Rathert in 1924 through the 1990s. She kept diaries and took photographs recording salient details: from interactions with Iranian women at Persepolis

to lionesses bringing down a wildebeest in the Serengeti. She also brought home mementos of those travels, inflected by her own personal bent. When she gathered 19th century Japanese Ukiyo-e prints, she carefully noted on the reverse not the name of the artist, but of the actor and dramatic role being depicted.

In 1986, Jane Tupper Huben, a devoted former student and alumna of the Class of 1959, established the Lucyle Hook Travel Grant, a stipend for travel and/or research-related expenses awarded to seniors whose projects demonstrate originality and self-direction. Among the recipients have been students working on the Nootka Indians of Vancouver Island (1995) and observations of the Crab Nebula at Biosphere 2 in Arizona (2001).

Born in Quanah, Texas, near the Oklahoma border, in 1901, Hook's first journeys were via the printed page. A voracious reader, she consumed volumes of the Harvard Classics, to which her mother had subscribed at 25 cents a month so that her 12-year-old daughter could learn about the world. Her own odyssey began after graduation from the College of Industrial Arts at Denton (now Texas Woman's University) in 1922, where she had taken a bachelor of arts in English and history, and a bachelor of science degree in drama. Until she came to New York, in 1923, however, she had never before seen a professionally produced play (one of the first was *Hamlet* with John Barrymore, which took her breath away). Denied admission to Columbia Law School, Hook instead signed on for a master's in English, and soon began the teaching that would characterize her adult life.

Hook had chaired the English department at Scarsdale High School for 20 years, simultaneously working toward a PhD at New York University (which she ultimately received in 1939), when Shakespeare scholar W. Cabell Greet invited her in 1948 to come to Barnard to replace the retiring Minor Latham as head of the drama program. Hook taught first-year English, Shakespearean and Restoration drama (the course that so enriched this author's life), and seminars on drama and literary criticism, all while serving as faculty advisor for productions in the theatre named for Minor Latham. She remained at the College until her retirement in 1967 (she was granted exceptional leave by President Millicent McIntosh from 1956–59, during which time she served as dean of the American College for Girls in Istanbul).

Fascinated with drama not only as literature, but as production (acting style, music accompaniment, staging, and social setting), Hook's scholarly research focused on the plays and performances of the English Restoration (1660 – ca. 1740). She was particularly concerned with parts written for women, and how their acting differed from similar parts played by boys acting as women. Publishing her dissertation in 1949, Hook wrote for journals such as *Shakespeare Quarterly* and *Theatre Notebook*, and lectured in the United States and in England

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A Club With a Vision: Washington, D.C. Alumnae Endow a Scholarship

It's a capital idea: The endowment of a scholarship, funded by the Barnard-in-Washington Club, enabling talented young women from the D.C. area to come to New York and receive a life-changing college education.

Members of the Barnard-in-Washington (BIW) Club have embraced this idea and have run with it. During the past year, they've made their own individual gifts and pledges toward the new scholarship, and in early November 2007, the club held a reception that brought wider attention and support to the campaign. As a result, the Barnard-in-Washington Club Scholarship Fund now contains more than half the cash necessary to reach full endowment and begin supporting deserving students.

Establishing a permanent scholarship at Barnard is the latest, most ambitious project of a long-thriving club that regularly taps the alumnae community's exceptional talents and connections for an array of exciting programs. Club-sponsored events have included private tutorials at art galleries, theatrical outings with backstage visits to cast and crew, and panel discussions by experts in politics, law, and foreign policy. Dana Lande '99, the club's current president, is especially committed to recruiting recent graduates, and to promoting ethnic and socioeconomic diversity as well as a wide generational range in club membership. As a result, BIW is now creating programming with a special appeal for the young alumnae who work on Capitol Hill. Last month, during Congressional recess week, it invited Barnard women employed by government and public policy groups to a brown bag networking lunch in the Rayburn House Office Building.

Lande earned a double degree from Barnard and Jewish Theological Seminary. She says the honors scholarships she received from JTS were a "tremendous gift" that allowed her to go on to business school free of prior debt. Today she is the owner of a successful jewelry design and manufacturing company and the mother of 17-month-old twins. "Another reason scholarship support is close to my heart is that diversity was one of the best things I experienced at Barnard," Lande says. "As tuition goes up, I would hate for students in coming years to be surrounded by women exactly like themselves."

The November cocktail reception at the American News Women's Club was successful not only in raising scholarship funds, but in bringing together dozens of women from many different class years. "We attracted recent graduates and people who graduated 50 years ago or more," says Myrna Fishman

Fawcett '70, whose generous pledge to the new scholarship fund is serving as an inspiration to other club members, while it augments the substantial support that she and her husband already offer through their own endowed Barnard scholarship. A practicing elder-law attorney, Fawcett is a past club president who has served three separate terms on the board of the Alumnae Association, currently as vice president, and also serves on the President's Advisory Council. She says she believes strongly in "the special nature of Barnard DNA," and she credits the excitement of being with wonderfully interesting creative women—"women who are vitally connected to the world"—for her involvement with the College.

"Fifty percent of Barnard's alumnae live outside the New York area now, and clubs like ours are a great way to connect to our alma mater," says Fawcett, who praises President Judith Shapiro for fostering alumnae connections far and wide and predicts the next Barnard president will do the same.

When Fawcett headed the Washington club, she shared the post with Myra Greenspoon Kovey '65, one of the signatories on the document establishing the scholarship fund and, like so many members of the club, a member of the bar. Attorney Monika Krizek Griffis '83 has been another key player in the scholarship effort. A past club president, recent AABC board member, and current member of the BIW board, Griffis was the spokeswoman who personally informed College administrators of her club's scholarship idea. Once the details were finalized, funding was set in accelerated motion by a large gift from Catherine McCabe '73, a lawyer who is a leading administrator at the Environmental Protection Agency. The club continues to solicit new gifts, in the hope it can announce the scholarship's full endowment at Reunion this spring.

Alison Rabil, director of financial aid, credits scholarships like this one for sustaining Barnard's mission to provide an excellent liberal arts education for women based on their achievement and potential and not on their ability to pay. She explains, "Because Barnard is committed to a need-blind admissions policy, our admissions office can disregard a student's financial situation and look only at the merit of her application, her talents, and her accomplishments. Students who have worked hard to come here should be able to. Scholarships like this one ensure that they can. I'm grateful to the D.C. alumnae, and hope clubs in other areas will follow their example."

Let it never be said that good ideas go nowhere in Washington.

WON'T YOU BE OUR NEIGHBOR?

Continued from Page 6

James McCloskey, Deputy Director, Street to Home, Common Ground

Common Ground is a supportive housing provider for street homeless individuals; its mission is to end homelessness through innovative programs that transform people, buildings, and entire communities.

We have a documentation project in midtown Manhattan. What we're interested in is how many of the people sleeping on a city street one night are doing so again on a second, or third night. We try to measure how many street homeless are sleeping on the street every night out of five—is it a situation of chronic street homelessness, or something temporary.

Barnard students came out with us four nights in a row in January during their break, from 11 PM to 4 AM, to help in this effort. They were incredibly dedicated right from the get-go, they really liked the project. We wound up hiring one student after she graduated, she was so fantastic. That's been the biggest contribution and the biggest project that Barnard has helped us with. To have that kind of support and interest from the College and President Judith Shapiro means so much.

Barnard, being in an urban environment with such smart, passionate students, has a role to play. And its contributions on many levels make a difference. The space that will be given to Goddard-Riverside in Cathedral Gardens is invaluable.

Will Simpkins, Program Director, Community & Diversity Initiatives and New York City Civic Engagement Program (NYCCEP)

The New York City Civic Engagement Program exists to help Barnard use the city's resources in a systematic, thoughtful way, and to educate students to become active, engaged citizens and leaders of a global community.

We know that college students who are more aware of the socio-economic and political issues facing the community they're in are more active in that community—the more they know about the town, the more likely they are to be engaged in it. Our students always have been very engaged in New York City,

but perhaps not as much in Harlem, so we're working on getting them more involved further uptown. To a certain degree, part of that effort involves combating the stereotypes that Barnard and Columbia students have about neighborhoods north of 120th street. Our program gets students to understand the role that community service can play in their personal and professional lives.

As part of these efforts, there has been an opening of the gates over the past 14 years—we're letting the community come in a little more frequently and letting our students out a little more frequently. President Shapiro has strongly encouraged students to leave the bubble. She's been very supportive of the work of the NYCCEP and highlighting the work that we've done.

Jean McCurry, Director of Special Events, Barnard College

Judith has supported the surrounding community throughout her presidency. She's been involved with the Morningside Area Alliance, the Friends of Morningside Park, and she will leave behind a legacy of bringing Barnard into the Columbia Community Service Annual Appeal. She has spoken with passion about the need to support our local community, and she has put "pedal to the metal" by riding in Barnard's annual Bike-A-Thon to raise money for the needy.

She once described Morningside Park as, "The lovely spot where the neighborhood comes together." The same can also be said about the Barnard campus during her presidency.

SYLLABUS: LEARNING TO LEAD

Continued from Page 36

reform movements, the military, and the family, students also consider how issues of gender are related to and affected by class, race, region, and nationality.

Another groundbreaking aspect of BLI is being developed by Pamela Cobrin, a Barnard lecturer in English, and Julie Zuraw, a communications consultant, in partnership with faculty from a range of academic departments. The aim is

to prepare students for class exercises involving public speaking, such as individual or team presentations and mock trials. [Read about the Speaking Fellows program on page 11.]

All aspects of BLI are fast making a mark on students. Julie Malyn '09, a "Women and Leadership" student majoring in psychology, says she has come to see herself as an activist and now has a better understanding of the word "feminist." Looking ahead, she hopes to enter the business world and use her expertise not only to force changes in corporate policies but also to discourage the behavior that keeps women from taking credit for work and asking for raises as their male counterparts more easily and routinely do.

Assessing the effect of taking both "Women and Leadership" and the BLI course "Organizational Psychology" during her junior year, Malyn says: "It's a wake-up call that has completely changed what I want to do with my life."

LUCYLE HOOK

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on the careers and personae of actresses Elizabeth Barry and Anne Bracegirdle, for whom John Dryden, William Congreve, and others wrote parts. Hook also was interested in the works of playwright Aphra Behn, the only woman known to have written for the Restoration theatre.

Hook collaborated frequently in the 1950s and '60s with harpsichordist and scholar Stoddard Lincoln on reconstructing music composed for the Restoration stage – for example, by Henry Purcell and John Eccles. Together, she and Lincoln were in the forefront of the early music movement that began in New York, establishing the "Baroque Singers" to perform such music.

When Lucyle Hook died, correspondence with and life-markers of generations of students were among her papers, which will be preserved in the Barnard College Archives along with a transcription of interviews conducted with her by Marjorie Dobkin in 1979 for the Oral History Research Office at Barnard. Her scholarly papers have been deposited in the Huntington Library archives in Pasadena, California.

Those papers cannot fully capture Hook's passionate engagement with English literature, so eloquently conveyed in the classroom. A single anecdote reveals the depth and insight of that engagement. At her visit to Cambridge, Massachusetts, in the spring of 1996, I thought to take her to the recent film version of Jane Austin's *Sense and Sensibility*, but she was too tired to go out, so we did the next best thing: brought home a video of *Pride and Prejudice* instead. During the beautifully choreographed and highly charged ball scene, where Darcy and Eliza participate in a set dance, Hook suddenly pointed at the screen, exclaiming: "That's it! That's it! The whole structure of the novel—how people converge, how they separate and come together again—is exactly there in that dance." She could still see, at the age of 94, into the very heart of the relationship between dramatic form and content.

During her lifetime, material resources were generously shared with institutions that had sustained her in the course of her own formation. Most of all, it was her intention to benefit Barnard upon her death. Her profound commitment to pedagogy has not only been expressed through the endowment of the English department chair; funds from the gift also support the English Conference: the Lucyle Hook Guest Lectureship, a series of lectures by visiting scholars with outstanding reputations in their field. And now the first holder of the Lucyle Hook Chair has taken her place on the faculty as well. The special legacy of Lucyle Hook as a teacher will continue to enrich the College well beyond the generations who had the privilege of working and studying with her.

Irene Winter '60 is William Dorr Boardman Professor, History of Art and Architecture, Harvard University.

Jakobsen argues, "then everybody has already lost," at least from the standpoint of academic inquiry. Debates occur in which every rhetorical move can be known in advance, and the conflict predictably grinds on, often ending in the courts. The seminar concluded that it was important to distinguish the question of *academic freedom* from that of freedom of speech. Freedom of speech, Jakobsen notes, is a right that people can assert or litigate; academic freedom is about a special kind of inquiry premised on the belief that we can learn from each other in a shared pursuit of knowledge. "The academy is not about a litigious understanding of what is happening. The academy is at its best when people come together specifically around controversy," she says.

2008: Phase Two

The "Difficult Dialogues" project moves into its second phase this year by considering nation, race, and ethnicity, within a yearlong faculty seminar on Africana gender studies, with additional discussion about the role scholarship in African gender studies plays in knowledge production throughout Barnard. In addition to strengthening the Africana Studies program at Barnard and ensuring its legitimacy, one immediate goal of the program is to raise awareness and consciousness of the work being done by Africana studies scholars outside of the program itself. "If I could wave a wand and make it so, no student would come out of the nine ways of knowing without learning something about the history of race and colonialism, and other departments would take part in the dialogue, too," says program director Kim F. Hall.

This year, as part of the "Difficult Dialogues" seminar, major Africana studies scholars from other universities are presenting their research at the College. Hall says she is confident Jakobsen will continue to initiate tough, forthright engagement in a way that will drive progress. "Janet is a goddess. I don't have enough adjectives to describe how brilliant she is. She is not just an accomplished scholar, but also a very savvy administrator. It's one of the joys of this job that I get to work with her." No doubt, Jakobsen will bring to it the same combination of scholarship, engagement with practical politics, and commitment to the cause of women that

informs all the work she does at Barnard.

Gaming: Reacting to the Past

The "Difficult Dialogues" grant also went toward the creation of an edition of a "Reacting to the Past" game focusing on the birth of the state of Israel and the territorial conflict that event inaugurated. The "Reacting to the Past" consortium consists of 40 colleges that jointly develop detailed simulation games that cast students in the roles of actors in major historical events, informed by classic texts, with the purpose of developing and disseminating the reacting pedagogy. The consortium has already published curricula for the French Revolution, the trial of Galileo, and Henry the VIII and the Reformation Parliament, among others.

Barnard College and history professor Mark Carnes developed and launched the program in 1995, with enthusiastic support from President Judith Shapiro. "Reacting to the Past," Shapiro has said, is just the kind of pedagogical exercise that can "shake students up, challenge their assumptions about the world, and make them think seriously about their place in the world," as she wrote in this magazine in 2005. In this way, the games lead to deeper learning, with students more apt to remember lessons long after they have written a paper or received a final grade. Since its launch in 1995, more than 150 colleges throughout the country have adopted parts of this curriculum.

As Carnes describes it, the Israel/Palestine game will force students to experience and—if possible—cope with the intellectual ferment that transformed the Middle East 70 years ago. Though the game has been especially sensitive and difficult to develop, Carnes says. Natasha Gill, an adjunct professor of international relations in the graduate program at The New School (and a former lecturer in philosophy at Barnard), "has had to spend much of the past year engaged in a scholarly form of shuttle diplomacy, simply to ensure that all parties have their various perspectives fairly and fully voiced."

At the end of the process, Carnes hopes to have a game that will give a complete exposition "to the various intellectual positions within the Zionist camp, among contending Palestinian and Arab factions, and among other nations as well."

CONVERSATION

Continued from Page 21

being the primary site of learning to the modern university." This intrinsic conflict between academic freedom and religious authority can often cause debates over religion to rapidly devolve into "contests over rights."

"Once it becomes a contest of rights,"

GREAT TIMES

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has been the fact that it was for much of its history a commuting institution in New York City. And so we had all these commuting students who were sometimes traveling god knows how long on the subway, getting a first-rate education, but not having the full college experience. Also, I think it did probably take us a little too long to develop a fully professional development operation, which we certainly now have.

And yet, even though we have this issue with the endowment, you still decided to pursue two building projects, Cathedral Gardens and, now, the Nexus. Can you reflect on both of those and why they were necessary?

Well, it was much like the decision, which was at that point really gutsy and risky, to build Sulzberger. That made the College fully residential. And that has had a major impact on the transformation of the sense of alumnae belonging. That was the right strategic decision during Ellen Futter's tenure.

We did a major strategic planning initiative. And the priorities that came out of that had to do with absolutely needing more student housing. And the issue with faculty retention and recruitment is housing. So there's no way that we could look forward to recruiting the kind of faculty that the College depends upon without doing something. Faculty housing is an ongoing issue and a major priority. And Cathedral Gardens allowed us to create faculty housing and student housing in one place.

As for the Nexus, we knew that our programs were being squeezed. We had a 70,000-net square foot deficit in our programs. And I think, just as it was important to make the College fully residential, we also need to have an event space so that Barnard will have a stronger profile both in the neighborhood and in New York. And we need a gathering place, as well as more study space—too many of our students go across to Butler. We want two-way traffic, also because one of the many functions of a library is to sit next to a very cute person that you hope will go for coffee with you at some point when they get tired of reading. You want to create this vibrant center of Barnard life so that you don't have that huge sucking

sound of too much of communal life going on across the street, as well as to help with our New York presence and neighborhood presence. So the Nexus was a major strategic priority.

Can you give me your sense of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to the College today?

The strengths clearly are what we think of as our quadrants. That is, we have such a distinctive set of features coming together: first-rate liberal arts college with an enormously, wonderfully distinguished, can't-give-you-too-many-adverbs-and-adjectives-for-them faculty. And such a strong profile as a women's college in terms of our alumnae. You go out and you say, "Anna Quindlen's our board chair." So the kinds of women that are associated with Barnard is a tremendous strength. We're in New York and as long as New York is a going concern, that is a major advantage. And we're a liberal arts college with a university right across the street. So I really do think that the strategic advantages of Barnard are huge.

Weaknesses—underfunding is the main one. I really worry about faculty recruitment in the context of housing. Or, for that matter, administrative recruitment. We can also be structurally invisible in the context of Columbia. So there is that constant challenge or weakness of being in the shadow of our big brother, and how do you make sure you have your own identity out there and have name recognition? I think we have a name recognition challenge.

Someone once told me that during a staff discussion of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, Columbia appeared in every column. Yes, that is absolutely true. Which is another reason to have a really strong, collegial relationship with the university.

Why is a broad liberal arts education important?

I think we have developed an ideology of inherent talent, like "I am good at this." As opposed to a notion that you actually can get good at something by learning it. With a broad liberal arts education, people discover, "Hey, this is science, or math, or writing. I can get good at it and, by the way, I like it." And women's colleges are much more likely not to have students

who come in interested in science and change their minds and fall away, and also to have students that came in with no idea of majoring in science and become interested in it.

Or foreign languages. Everybody talks about multiculturalism and diversity, but another language is another way of looking at the world. And if some institution says they care about cultural diversity but doesn't have a language requirement, I am skeptical.

I firmly, firmly believe in requirements. So much so that I probably wouldn't want to be president of a college or university that didn't have them.

You said that you're feeling like a Barnard senior because everyone keeps asking what you're doing next year.

What are you doing next year?

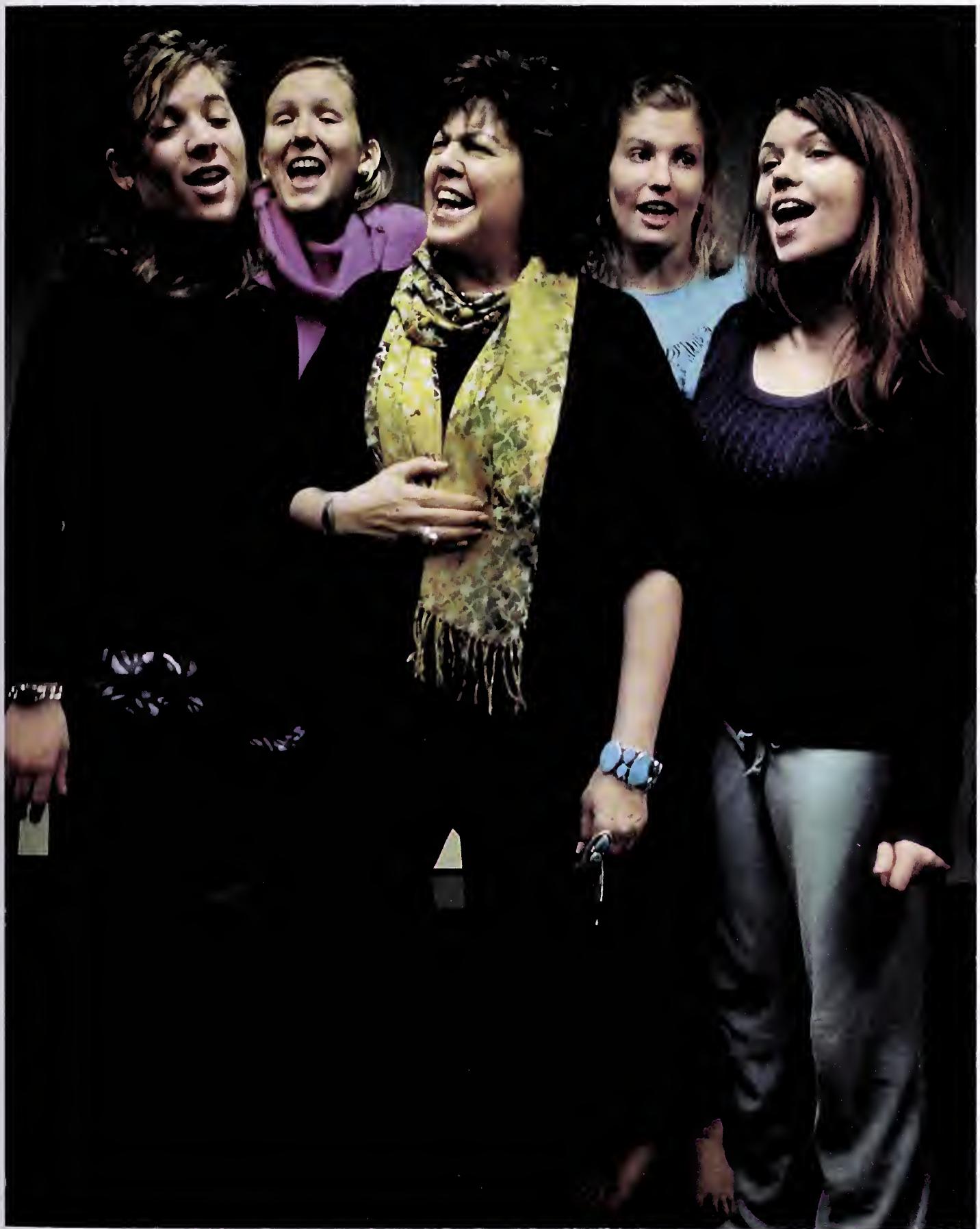
Well, you know, I like what Diana Chapman Walsh, former Wellesley president, told people. She said she was taking a gap year.

I probably won't take a gap year. I've already been asked to do a couple of things that I might definitely want to say yes to. And it will involve nonprofit work of a certain sort. There's writing that I really would like to do, which was put aside for many, many years. And I'd like to find some way to be involved with my other great love aside from higher education, which is public radio.

You had a meeting as a young anthropologist with Margaret Mead, the Barnard graduate who's thought of as the essential anthropologist. And she said, "Now, Judith, you must type up your field notes every night so that, if you die suddenly, someone else can use them." Could you provide some quick field notes for Barnard's next president?

My very first response is, I don't want to give the next president any more advice than she really wants. When I was first contacted by Barnard's search committee, I had known Ellen Futter because of the Seven College Conference. And what she did was not so much give me advice as make a prediction. I said, "Ellen, do I want to do this?" And she said, "You'll have a great time."

So I think the first thing I would say to the next president is, with total confidence, "You'll have a great time."



A Bushel and a Peck

Acclaimed novelist, writer of short fiction, essays, and biography, Mary Gordon '71 is the Millicent C. McIntosh Professor of Writing at Barnard. She is widely known as the author of four bestselling novels, *Final Payments*, *The Company of Women, Men and Angels*, and *The Other Side*. Her most recent work, *Circling My Mother*, is a powerful memoir of Anna Gagliano Gordon. A recipient of the Lila Acheson Wallace-Reader's Digest Award and a Guggenheim fellowship, she can never remember a time when she did not want to be a writer.

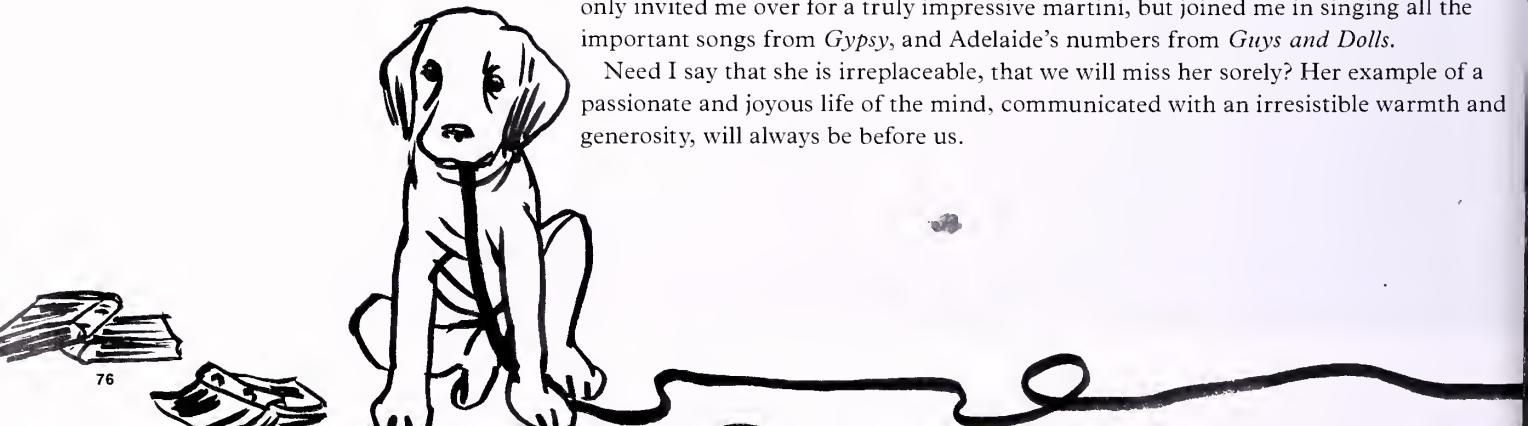
Everyone knows that Judith Shapiro loves a good story. Everyone knows she has a fabulous ear. But not everyone, perhaps, knows that she is an avid, even passionate, and passionately demanding reader of literature; that her curiosity and deep human sympathy find both home and nourishment in fiction, poetry, drama, and what might in another time have been called *belles lettres*. All these qualities make her a kind of dream president for a writer who makes her home in the academy. Not only does Judith feel the importance of good writing in her bones, she gets the importance of writing at Barnard, an importance that has both a deep history and a lively present tense. One has only to watch her face at a student or a faculty reading to understand the quality of her engagement.

There has been a lot of speculation about why Barnard has been so unusually successful at producing writers. There has been some talk of having a body of distinguished scientists analyze the water in the drinking fountains—but it doesn't seem to have garnered sufficient support from the National Science Foundation. My theory, based on experience as both a student and a faculty member, is that Barnard's unique situation as a woman's college in New York City draws the kind of person with enough courage and imagination to contemplate the life of a writer, a life that, like life in New York, is a combination high-wire act and endurance-testing marathon. But once these women with dreams of writing come to Barnard, their gifts and dreams are both nourished and fortified by our curriculum and our faculty in a way that is perhaps especially useful to a young writer. Barnard endows a combination of intellectual challenge with the kind of attentive support that allows a student to risk more than she thought she might be capable of. Everything in Judith Shapiro's presidency has testified to her commitment to these ideas and values.

I know that I speak for every writer who has had the good fortune to teach at Barnard in the time that Judith Shapiro has been our leader when I say that we feel valued and prized by her. But on one occasion, I had to test her commitment to one member of her writing faculty: me. I had been offered a job at another institution at the same time that I had acquired a new puppy. True to my reputation as a cutthroat negotiator, I entered Judith's office and said that I had one demand. If she wanted to keep me, she had to allow me to bring my dog onto the campus for six weeks because her vaccinations would not take effect till that time and unless I could take her to a place where no unvaccinated dogs would possibly have left their marks, I would have to keep her indoors. President Shapiro marshaled all *her* negotiating skills and convinced all the powers that be (usually committed to keeping Barnard dog-free) that it was important to Barnard's position as a supporter of Women's Writing that my puppy be allowed on the campus for six weeks. This was, to my mind, a sign of her truly outstanding sense of priorities, and her ability to support her faculty and to convince some important but resistant people on her staff of the absolute rightness of her claim. My dog's immunity was, in six weeks, complete. I stayed at Barnard.

When I was awarded a prize for my collection of short stories, my president not only invited me over for a truly impressive martini, but joined me in singing all the important songs from *Gypsy*, and Adelaide's numbers from *Guys and Dolls*.

Need I say that she is irreplaceable, that we will miss her sorely? Her example of a passionate and joyous life of the mind, communicated with an irresistible warmth and generosity, will always be before us.



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